

February 1, 2008

MEETING NOTICE

MEMORANDUM TO: Patricia Silva, Branch Chief
Hanford Project Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Bret Leslie, Senior Project Manager
Hanford Project Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards */RA/*
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING A REVIEW OF
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY REGULATORY PROCESSES
FOR THE HANFORD WASTE TREATMENT PLANT

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, February 13, 2008
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Hanford House Red Lion
802 George Washington Way
Richland, WA 99352

PURPOSE: To inform the public about the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission's (NRC) role in reviewing the U.S. Department of
Energy regulatory processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment
Plant.

CATEGORY: This is a Category 3 Meeting. The public is invited to participate in
this meeting by providing comments and asking questions
throughout the meeting. Interested members of the public who are
unable to attend in person are encouraged to participate in this
meeting via a toll-free teleconference. For details, please contact
the NRC meeting contact, Bret Leslie (bwl@nrc.gov), by Friday,
February 8, 2008.

MEETING CONTACT: Bret Leslie: 301-492-3196, bwl@2nrc.gov

NRC PARTICIPANTS: P. Silva, B. Leslie, etc.

ENCLOSURE: Meeting Agenda

RECEIVED
FEB 05 2008
EDMC

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Public Meeting
An NRC Review of the U.S. Department of Energy Regulatory Processes for the Hanford
Waste Treatment Plant
Hanford House Red Lion, 802 George Washington Way
Richland, Washington
Wednesday, February 13, 2008
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

MEETING AGENDA

- I. Welcome, Introductions, and Purpose of Meeting (10 minutes)
- II. Describe Congressional Request and NRC's Planned Review (30 minutes)
- III. Question and Answer Session (remaining time)

Breaks will be provided as needed.

Enclosure

NRC's Role in the Review of DOE Regulatory Processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant

WHO: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is an independent regulatory agency that is separate from the Department of Energy (DOE). The NRC was created as an independent agency by Congress in 1974. The NRC's mission is to license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of radioactive material to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote common defense and security, and protect the environment. The NRC regulates commercial nuclear power plants and other nuclear facilities and nuclear materials. More information about the NRC is available at www.nrc.gov.

WHAT: The NRC has been tasked with conducting a review of the DOE regulatory processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant (WTP).

The Report for the Omnibus Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2008 states: "In cooperation with the Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is directed to review the regulatory processes of the Department for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant and report its assessment and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment."

HOW: This review will consist of an evaluation of DOE regulations, requirements, orders, and guidance for the Hanford WTP from the perspective of the NRC regulatory framework, which applies to commercial facilities. The review will be limited to safety and environmental programs and activities specific to the WTP. The review will not be a detailed design or license review, a detailed audit of DOE implementation of its requirements, or an assessment of security threat or vulnerability. There will be no review of security, MC&A, emergency planning, management of plant output, or decommissioning. Congress expects the NRC and DOE to cooperate in conducting the review to ensure a mutual understanding of the approach, results, and recommendations for the Congressional Report.

Unless expressly authorized by statute, the NRC does not have authority to license or otherwise regulate DOE facilities. Under the existing statutory framework, the NRC does not have licensing or general regulatory authority over DOE's activities at the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant.

WHEN: A report is due to Congress in late June 2008. It may include options and recommendations for future oversight of the WTP.

The NRC values the involvement of stakeholders and will respond to stakeholder questions or concerns. NRC staff plans to meet again with stakeholders once the report has been finalized. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Patti Silva at 301-492-3114 or e-mail her at pas6@nrc.gov.