NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING APRIL 29 ON ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH HEMYC FIRE PROTECTION MATERIAL

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with interested stakeholders on April 29 in Rockville, Md., to discuss the use of a fire-resistant material marketed under the name "Hemyc."

The meeting will be held in the Auditorium of the NRC's Two White Flint North building, 11545 Rockville Pike, from 8:30 a.m. until noon. The discussions will focus on the capability of Hemyc with respect to nuclear power plant fire protection strategies, given that recent tests have raised questions about Hemyc's ability to fully protect electrical cabling as long as required by NRC regulations.

The agency has contacted those plants using Hemyc to inform them about the test results so that any appropriate compensatory actions can be taken. Since the material is used in areas with both fire detection and suppression systems, the NRC remains assured that those plants' overall fire protection scheme will ensure safe shutdown of a reactor in case of fire. The NRC will issue letters to the affected plants to ensure they take appropriate corrective actions.

Members of the public are invited to participate by discussing these issues with NRC staff throughout the meeting. For more information on the meeting, contact Chandu Patel at 301-415-3025 (via email at cpp@nrc.gov) or Daniel Frumkin at 301-415-2280 (via email at dxf1@nrc.gov). Parties interested in participating in the meeting via toll-free teleconference should contact Patel or Frumkin.

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