



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC MEETING ON PROPOSED MOX FACILITY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is meeting with Duke Cogema Stone & Webster (DCS) on January 15-16 to discuss chemical and nuclear criticality safety and confinement ventilation related to the mixed oxide (MOX) fuel fabrication facility proposed for the Department of Energy's Savannah River site near Aiken, South Carolina.

The meeting, which is open to the public for observation, will be held in Room O-7B4 each day from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at NRC Headquarters, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The public will have opportunities to communicate with NRC staff after the business portion, but before the meeting is adjourned.

If NRC authorizes construction, DCS could begin building the MOX facility to convert surplus weapons-grade plutonium, supplied by DOE, into MOX fuel for use in those commercial nuclear power reactors authorized to use such fuel. Converting weapons-grade plutonium into MOX fuel advances the cause of nonproliferation by converting the material into a form unsuitable for use in weapons.

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