

DEC 23 1985

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Joseph M. Felton, Director  
Division of Rules and Records

FROM: Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
Repository Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management

SUBJECT: FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF  
TECHNICAL POSITION

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Enclosed is a Federal Register Notice that announces the availability of a  
Generic Technical Position on Waste Package Reliability Analysis for  
High-Level Nuclear Waste Repositories. The original and 12 copies are provided  
in accordance with SECY procedures.

Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
Repository Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management

Enclosure:  
Federal Register Notice

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
AVAILABILITY OF FINAL GENERIC TECHNICAL POSITION  
IN HIGH-LEVEL WASTE PROGRAM

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is announcing the availability of the "Generic Technical Position on Waste Package Reliability Analysis for High-Level Nuclear Waste Repositories."

ADDRESSES: This document is available for public inspection and copying at the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Public Document Room, 17 7 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20555, telephone 202/634-3273.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy C. Johnson, Section Leader, Engineering Branch, Division of Waste Management, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone 301/427-4088.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-425) and the Commission regulation 10 CFR Part 60 promote interaction between the Department of Energy (DOE) and NRC prior to submittal of a license

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application for a geologic repository. These interactions are to fully inform DOE about the level of information that must be provided in a license application to allow a licensing decision to be made by NRC.

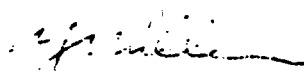
The principal mechanism for providing guidance to the DOE is completion by the NRC staff of Site Characterization Analyses (SCA's) submitted according to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act and 10 CFR Part 60. Additional means have been developed to supplement the guidance provided in the SCA's. These include staff technical positions on both generic and site specific issues. Generic Technical Positions (GTP's) establish the staff's position on broad technical issues that would be applicable to any site. Site Technical Positions (STP's) establish the staff's position on a site specific technical issue. A number of GTP's will be developed by the staff to establish lists of generic issues or information requirements for sites being investigated by DOE.

On November 8, 1984, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission published for comment a draft version of the "Generic Technical Position on Waste Package Reliability" (49FR39763). Public comment on the draft version was received from four groups and individuals. A number of changes and clarifications have been made in the final Generic Technical Position as a result of comments received. Copies of comments may be examined in the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20555.

This GTP provides guidance to DOE on what the staff considers to be an acceptable method of analysis for demonstrating reasonable assurance that the waste package designs proposed by DOE will meet the performance objectives and design criteria of 10 CFR Part 60. As part of a license application for a high-level nuclear waste repository the DOE is required to submit a Safety Analysis Report (SAR). The SAR must contain a performance assessment of the waste package. The intent of the GTP is to indicate the essential elements of such a waste package performance assessment. The GTP summarizes guidance which has been given to DOE through technical correspondence, documented technical meetings, and other mechanisms provided by the NRC/DOE Procedural Agreement (48FR38701, dated 8/25/83).

Dated at Silver Spring, Maryland, this 20 day of December 1985.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

  
Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
Repository Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards