



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: <http://www.nrc.gov>

No. 07-099

August 8, 2007

NRC SEEKS COMMENTS ON DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comments on its draft Strategic Plan, covering Fiscal Years 2007 to 2012, that describes what the NRC intends to do over the next five years to carry out its mission to protect people and the environment. The NRC's vision is: *Excellence in licensing and regulating the safe and secure use and management of radioactive materials for the public good.*

The draft plan describes how the NRC as a strong, independent and stable regulator will continue to ensure the safe use of radioactive materials and nuclear power in a dynamic environment. Some of the more significant challenges facing the agency over the next several years include the expected receipt of applications to construct and operate new nuclear power plants and a high-level nuclear waste facility. The draft Strategic Plan also addresses how the NRC will meet these challenges.

Safety and security continue to be the agency's top strategic goals. Strategies to meet those goals are described in the draft plan and reflect real world changes. For example, greater emphasis is being placed on improving regulatory processes for ensuring the safety of new power reactors while reflecting the agency's continuing priority to ensure that existing reactors continue to operate safely. Strategies also reflect increased security requirements for radioactive sources and high-enriched uranium fuel.

The draft plan has four organizational excellence objectives that describe how the agency intends to carry out its safety and security goals. They are: 1) openness, 2) effectiveness, 3) timeliness, and 4) operational excellence. And as the NRC expands to meet its increasing workload, the document emphasizes the important relationship between human capital, knowledge management, and space challenges that must be addressed in order to ensure that the agency can successfully carry out its mission.

When final, this Strategic Plan will replace the existing plan and will guide agency operations.

All interested individuals are encouraged to provide their comments on the draft Strategic Plan. Stakeholder feedback is considered a valuable part of helping the Commission develop a final plan.

By September 7, all comments should be submitted to the NRC electronically at: STRATPLAN@NRC.GOV; by mail to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Mail Stop T6-D59, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; or faxed to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch at (301) 415-5144.

The draft Strategic Plan is available on NRC's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov> and is available for inspection and copying for a fee at the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. 20852.

###

News releases are available through a free list serve subscription at the following Web address: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html> . The NRC homepage at www.nrc.gov also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's Web site.