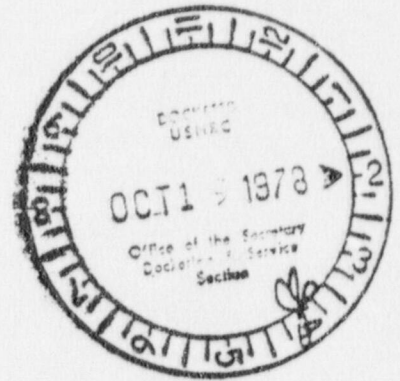


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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS:

Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman
Victor Gilinsky
Richard T. Kennedy
Peter A. Bradford
John F. Ahearne



In the Matter of

AMENDMENT OF 10 CFR PART 51
LICENSING OF PRODUCTION AND
UTILIZATION FACILITIES
(Environmental Effects of the
Uranium Fuel Cycle)

Docket No. RM 50-3

ORDER

The uranium fuel cycle rulemaking to assess the environmental impacts of reprocessing and waste management associated with operation of individual light water reactors is now entering its concluding stage. On August 31, 1978, the Commission received the Report of the Hearing Board summarizing the record and outlining the significant issues raised in the proceeding. We expect to receive not later than October 31, 1978 the Hearing Board's recommendations regarding a final fuel cycle rule. In this Order we discuss the procedures which the Commission intends to follow after the Hearing Board's recommendations have been submitted.

In letters dated July 14, 1978 and August 29, 1978 the Natural Resources Defense Council submitted procedural suggestions for written

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and oral presentations to the Commission by participants. Responses by other participants and by the NRC staff have criticized or opposed these suggestions. After considering the matter, we conclude that some form of additional submission by the parties may be useful, although we do not accept the specific proposals and scheduling suggested by NRDC. We believe, in particular, that concise, well-focused written statements by participants are likely to assist the Commission in its study of the extensive record in this rulemaking.

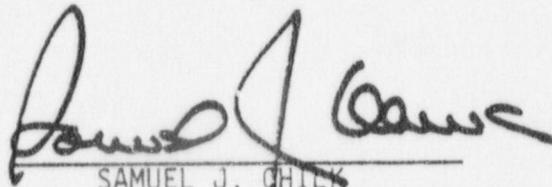
Accordingly, following submission of the Hearing Board's recommendations the Commission will accept written statements by participants in this rulemaking, including the NRC staff. To be of maximum use to the Commission, these statements should focus on the rulemaking record and on the Hearing Board's summary and recommendations. The statements should highlight those portions of the record which the participant believes should receive the Commission's special attention. Participants' statements should be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission no later than twenty-one days following the date on which the Hearing Board's recommendations are served.

The Commission is also considering reserving up to three hours for oral presentations following receipt of written comments. Participants who are interested in making oral presentations should notify the Secretary no later than the deadline for submitting written comments.

This notification should give the name of the person who would make the presentation, indicate the intended scope of the comment, and advise on whose behalf the oral presentation would be made. The participants are encouraged to confer together in an effort to consolidate and limit the number and length of proposed oral presentations. Based on an assessment of the Commission's needs following our initial review of the Hearing Board recommendations, the participants' written comments, and the expression of interest in oral argument, the Commission will decide whether to schedule oral presentations and how to allocate time.

It is so ORDERED.

For the Commission



SAMUEL J. CHIKY
Secretary of the Commission

Dated at Washington, DC,
this 19th day of October 1978.