

available, depending on the number of persons who register. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Mr. Kugler's attention no later than May 22, 2002, to provide the NRC staff adequate notice to determine whether the request can be accommodated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Andrew J. Kugler, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Mr. Kugler may be contacted at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of April, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Pao-Tsin Kuo,

Acting Program Director, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 02-10184 Filed 4-24-02; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Solicitation of Comments on Draft NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2604, "Licensee Performance Review"

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for comment.

SUMMARY: The Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards of the NRC has issued a draft revision to Inspection Manual Chapter (MC) 2604, "Licensee Performance Review" for stakeholder review and comment. The Licensee Performance Review (LPR) process is part of the NRC's oversight program for commercial nuclear fuel cycle facilities regulated under 10 CFR parts 40, 70, and 76. These facilities currently include gaseous diffusion plants, uranium fuel fabrication facilities, and a uranium hexafluoride (UF₆) production facility.

Through the proposed revision to MC 2604, the staff intends to make the LPR process more risk informed by: focusing the periodic performance reviews on safety- and safeguards-significant issues; discontinuing the practice of aggregating non-significant issues; eliminating the use of "strengths" and "challenges to performance" in characterizing facility performance, and; replacing the term "weaknesses" with "areas needing

improvement." In addition to enhancing the safety focus of facility performance assessment, the staff believes that these changes should make the LPR process more efficient. Accordingly, the staff has shortened the time span to produce an LPR report by several weeks, which will result in the reports being more timely. The staff intends to continue holding public meetings in the vicinity of facilities to present LPR results to licensees and interested stakeholders.

The availability of this document is the latest step in an NRC effort to improve its oversight program for nuclear fuel cycle facilities. The staff has recently revised its approach to this project to revise first the LPR process, then the inspection program, pending the implementation of changes resulting from the recent revision to 10 CFR part 70. The staff's revised approach is described more fully in a March 18, 2002, memorandum from the Executive Director for Operations to the Commission. This memorandum is available in the Public Document Room, in ADAMS (accession number ML012770063), and on the NRC technical conference Web site at <http://techconf.llnl.gov/cgi-bin/topics>.

Opportunity To Comment: To provide NRC with stakeholder views on proposed changes to the process used to assess the safety and safeguards performance of fuel facilities, interested parties are invited to comment on the draft revision to MC 2604.

DATES: Written comments must be received prior to May 28, 2002.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the draft revision to MC 2604 may be obtained by writing to the Inspection Section, Special Projects and Inspection Branch (M/S T8H7), Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments on this document should be sent to this same address.

The draft revision to MC 2604 is also available on the NRC technical conference Web site at <http://techconf.llnl.gov/cgi-bin/topics>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Castleman, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, M/S T8H7, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-8118, e-mail pic@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 18th day of April, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Melvyn N. Leach,

Chief, Special Projects and Inspection Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 02-10183 Filed 4-24-02; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

January 2002 Pay Adjustments

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The President adjusted the rates of basic pay and locality payments for certain categories of Federal employees in January 2002. This notice documents those pay adjustments for the public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Roberts, Office of Compensation Administration, Workforce Compensation and Performance Service, Office of Personnel Management, (202) 606-2858, FAX (202) 606-0824, or email to payleave@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 28, 2001, the President signed Executive Order 13249 (67 FR 639, January 7, 2002), which implemented the January 2002 across-the-board adjustments for the statutory pay systems and the 2002 locality pay adjustments for General Schedule (GS) employees in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. The President made these adjustments consistent with Public Law 107-67, November 12, 2001, which authorized an overall average pay increase of 4.6 percent for General Schedule employees.

Schedule 1 of Executive Order 13249 provides the rates for the 2002 General Schedule and reflects a 3.6 percent general increase. Executive Order 13249 also includes the percentage amounts of the 2002 locality payments. (See Section 5 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13249.)

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in section 5(b) of Executive Order 13182 that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2002 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

GS employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. In 2002, locality payments ranging from 8.64 percent to 19.04 percent apply to GS employees in 32 locality pay areas.