United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs Washington, DC 20555 Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234 Internet:opa@nrc.gov

No. 97-163

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Monday, November 3, 1997)

NRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE TO MEET NOVEMBER 20-22 IN ROCKVILLE, MD

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 96th technical meeting November 20-22 in Rockville, Maryland.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day in Room T-2B3, One White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville.

The committee will meet with the NRC's Director of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) to discuss technical assistance developments at the Yucca Mountain project; review research being conducted on nuclear waste disposal by NRC staff; prepare for its upcoming meeting with the Commission, and discuss proposed reports, topics for future consideration and miscellaneous matters. The NRC staff also will brief the committee on its evaluation of the U.S. Department of Energy's waste classification at West Valley, Hanford and Savannah River.

Although meetings of the ACNW are open, they are not part of the NRC's public hearing process. The ACNW was established in 1988 to advise the Comm Alission on all aspects of nuclear waste management. While anyone may attend the meeting, the committee will consider only oral or written statements arranged in advance and limited to specific matters set forth in a Notice of Meeting to be published in an upcoming issue of the Federal Register.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for an opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted for them can be obtained by contacting Richard K. Major, Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch at (301) 415-7366. ACNW also maintains an Internet site on the NRC Homepage (http//www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW). (NOTE TO EDITORS: The use of self-contained tape recorders in the meeting room is permitted during open portions of the meeting when a transcript is being kept. The use of still, motion picture and television cameras - the physical installation and presence of which will not interfere with the course of the meeting - will be permitted both before and after the meeting, during any recess, and, at the discretion of the committee chairman, while the meeting is in session.)

##