



NRC NEWS

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NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ANNOUNCES EXPERT PANEL NOMINEES FOR FIRST PHASE OF NRC-SPONSORED CANCER RISK STUDY

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has named the provisional committee nominees for the first phase of the NRC-sponsored study, "Analysis of Cancer Risks in Populations Near Nuclear Power Facilities." The provisional committee list has been posted on the Academy's website here: <http://www8.nationalacademies.org/cp/CommitteeView.aspx?key=49310>.

The NAS will accept comments regarding individual committee members or committee composition until Jan. 31. Comments can be submitted via the NRSB website above. The NAS will finalize the committee after analyzing its composition and balance, as well as potential conflicts of interest. The committee will discuss these topics, including consideration of public comments on the committee's overall make-up, during its first meeting, expected in February. For further information on conflict of interest guidelines, please see the NAS website: <http://dels.nas.edu/global/nrsb/ConflictofInterest>. More general information on this project can be found on the <http://www.nationalacademies.org/cancerriskstudy> site.

The NAS project will provide an up-to-date version of the 1990 U.S. National Institutes of Health - National Cancer Institute (NCI) report, "Cancer in Populations Living Near Nuclear Facilities" (<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Risk/nuclear-facilities>). The NRC uses the 1990 NCI report as a primary resource when communicating with the public about cancer mortality risk in counties that contain or are adjacent to nuclear power facilities. In the new study, the NRC is interested in having the NAS evaluate cancer diagnosis rates, in addition to mortality risk, for populations living near decommissioned, operating and proposed NRC-licensed nuclear facilities.

The National Academy of Sciences is a non-governmental organization chartered by the U.S. Congress to advise the nation on issues of science, technology, and medicine. Through the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine, it carries out studies independently of the government using processes designed to promote transparency, objectivity, and technical rigor. More information on NAS methods for performing studies is available at <http://www.nationalacademies.org/studycommitteeprocess.pdf>.

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