

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 09, 2021

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, CONNECTICUT, INDIANA NON-AGREEMENT STATES STATE LIAISON OFFICERS FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBES

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF HOW THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND ACTIVITIES ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND NOTIFICATION OF RELATED MEETINGS (STC-21-042)

Purpose: To provide notice that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is conducting a systematic review of how NRC's programs, policies, and activities address environmental justice and will be holding meetings and soliciting comments to help inform its review.

Background: On April 23, 2021, the NRC Commission issued a Staff Requirements Memorandum directing the staff to systematically review how the agency's programs, policies, and activities address environmental justice (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML21113A070). As part of this review, the Commission directed the staff to evaluate recent Executive Orders and assess whether environmental justice is appropriately considered and addressed in the agency's programs, policies, and activities, given the agency's mission. As directed, the staff will consider the practices of other Federal, State, and Tribal agencies and evaluate whether the NRC should incorporate environmental justice beyond implementation through the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff will also review the adequacy of the Commission's 2004 "Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions" (69 FR 52040). The Commission further directed the staff to consider whether establishing formal mechanisms to gather external stakeholder input would benefit any future environmental justice efforts. To carry out the Commission's direction, the staff is seeking to engage stakeholders and interested persons representing a broad range of perspectives. As part of this engagement effort, we're holding meetings to solicit comments to inform its review.

Discussion: Two meetings will be held virtually as webinars on Thursday, July 15, 2021, to discuss the NRC staff's systematic review of how environmental justice is addressed in NRC's programs, policies, and activities. The first meeting will be from 1:30p.m. to 3:00p.m. EDT, and the second meeting from 8:00p.m. to 9:30p.m. EDT. The agenda and additional information regarding these meetings can be found on the NRC's Web site at https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20210894 and https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20210848.

The NRC staff is interested in obtaining a broad range of perspectives from stakeholders and interested persons in the coming months. To do this, the NRC staff plans to hold additional public meetings, and government to government meetings with state and tribal governments, as well as solicit comments. On July 9, 2021, a *Federal Register* notice was published identifying questions on which the NRC staff is particularly interested in obtaining input (86 FR 36307).

If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual named below:

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Robert K. Johnson, Acting Chief State Agreement and Liaison Programs Division of Materials Safety, Security, State, and Tribal Programs Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF

HOW THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND ACTIVITIES ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND

NOTIFICATION OF RELATED MEETINGS (STC-21-042)

DATE: <u>JULY 09, 2021</u>

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OFFICE	NMSS/MSST	NRR/DNRL	OGC	NMSS/MSST	NMSS/MSST
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