public is invited to comment on the adequacy of this technical information, including the following:

I. Technical Basis

1. RIL 0801 Figure 1 provides the measured embrittlement threshold for all fresh and irradiated cladding specimens investigated during the ANL research program. Hydrogen dependent post-quench ductility regulatory criteria, similar to the lines on this figure, may be established from these experimental results.

a. Is the technical information presented within NUREG/CR–6967 sufficient in scope and depth to justify specific regulatory criteria applicable to all current zirconium cladding alloys?

b. Is the technical information presented within NUREG/CR–6967 sufficient in scope and depth to justify periodic testing on as-fabricated cladding material?

c. Is the technical information presented within NUREG/CR–6967 sufficient in scope and depth to address sensitivities to alloy composition, trace elements, manufacturing practices, fuel rod burnup, and transient temperature profile?

2. Section 2 of NUREG/CR–6967 details the experimental techniques and procedures employed at ANL to assess cladding properties.

a. Were the experimental techniques and procedures adequate for their intended purpose of defining acceptable fuel criteria (e.g., specimen preparation, specimen size, heating/cooling rates, ring-compression techniques, test temperature, acceptance criteria for post-quench ductility and breakaway oxidation, etc.)?

b. Is the technical information presented within NUREG/CR–6967 sufficient in scope and depth to address uncertainties related to and repeatability of measured results?

II. Performance-Based Testing Requirements

1. Due to potential sensitivities to manufacturing processes, performance based testing may be required to characterize the loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) performance of new cladding alloys.

a. Section 2.1 of NUREG/CR–6967 details all of the fresh and irradiated cladding specimens investigated during the ANL research program. Is the extent of the ANL material database sufficient to justify the applicability of experimental results to future cladding alloys?

b. Conducting testing on irradiated specimens is more difficult and expensive than similar tests performed on unirradiated specimens. Does a sufficient technical basis exist to justify testing on hydrogen charged, unirradiated cladding specimens as a surrogate for irradiated fuel cladding?

2. Due to potential sensitivities to manufacturing processes, routine testing may be required to verify material performance. Are there difficulties or limitations with periodic testing that would make such a requirement impractical?

III. Implementation

1. Implementing new regulatory criteria for 10 CFR 50.46(b) may necessitate further testing and new licensing activities (e.g., revised methods, updated safety analyses, etc.). What is the cost-benefit for implementing new regulatory requirements similar to those discussed in RIL 0801?

2. Implementing hydrogen-based regulatory criteria may require the development of high confidence corrosion and hydrogen pickup models.

a. What type of information is needed to develop such models and is such information readily available?

b. What performance indicators (e.g., pool-side measurements, hot cell examinations, etc.) could be used to validate models?

c. What additional regulatory requirements would be necessary to assure that the fuel is performing in accordance with the approved models? How will compliance with the rule be demonstrated on a cycle by cycle basis?

3. Crud deposits on the fuel cladding surface may affect fuel stored energy, fuel rod heat transfer, and cladding corrosion.

a. What role does plant chemistry and crud deposits play on these items?

b. How should normal and abnormal levels of crud deposits be addressed from a regulatory perspective?

The NRC is seeking public comment to receive feedback from the widest range of interested parties and to ensure that all information relevant to revision of the embrittlement criteria in 10 CFR 50.46 is available to the NRC staff. The NRC will review public comments received on this technical information and incorporate appropriate changes before starting to develop the proposed revisions to the regulations. Comments will be discussed during a 10 CFR 50.46(b) public workshop tentatively scheduled for September 2008 (specific date and location to be noticed separately).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of July 2008.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

William H. Ruland,

Director, Division of Safety Systems, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. E8–17543 Filed 7–30–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Regulatory Guide: Issuance, Availability

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Issuance and Availability of Draft Regulatory Guide, DG–3034.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Johnson, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, telephone: (301) 492–3121 or e-mail to *Timothy.Johnson@nrc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued for public comment a draft regulatory guide in the agency's ''Regulatory Guide'' series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft regulatory guide (DG), titled, ''General Design Guide for Ventilation Systems of Plutonium Processing and Fuel Fabrication Plants,'' is temporarily identified by its task number, DG–3034, which should be mentioned in all related correspondence.

Proposed Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 3.12 describes a method that the staff of the NRC considers acceptable for use in complying with 10 CFR 70.23(a)(3) and (a)(4) with respect to the design of ventilation systems for plutonium processing and fuel fabrication plants. At plutonium processing and fuel fabrication plants, a principal risk to health and safety is the release and dispersal of radioactive materials. The prevention of such release and dispersal is an important function of the ventilation systems. To meet these objectives, this guide provides recommendations for achieving defense in depth and for

minimizing the release of radioactive materials to the environment.

Each applicant for a license to possess and use special nuclear material in a plutonium processing and fuel fabrication plant as defined in 10 CFR 70.4, ''Special Nuclear Material,'' must satisfy the provisions of 10 CFR 70.23, ''Requirements for the approval of applications.'' Paragraphs (a)(3) and (a)(4) of 10 CFR 70.23 require that the applicant's proposed equipment, facility, and procedures be adequate to protect health and minimize danger to life or property.

II. Further Information

The NRC staff is soliciting comments on DG–3034. Comments may be accompanied by relevant information or supporting data, and should mention DG–3034 in the subject line. Comments submitted in writing or in electronic form will be made available to the public in their entirety through the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

Personal information will not be removed from your comments. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

1. *Mail comments to:* Rulemaking, Directives, and Editing Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

2. *E-mail comments to: NRCREP@nrc.gov*.

3. *Hand-deliver comments to:* Rulemaking, Directives, and Editing Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

4. *Fax comments to:* Rulemaking, Directives, and Editing Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at (301) 415–5144.

Requests for technical information about DG–3034 may be directed to Timothy Johnson at (301) 492–3121 or e-mail to *Timothy.Johnson@nrc.gov*.

Comments would be most helpful if received by October 1, 2008. Comments received after that date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Electronic copies of DG–3034 are available through the NRC's public Web site under Draft Regulatory Guides in the ''Regulatory Guides'' collection of the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/*. Electronic copies are also available in ADAMS (*http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html*), under Accession No. ML081080479.

In addition, regulatory guides are available for inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), which is located at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The PDR's mailing address is USNRC PDR, Washington, DC 20555–0001. The PDR can also be reached by telephone at (301) 415–4737 or (800) 397–4205, by fax at (301) 415–3548, and by e-mail to *PDR@nrc.gov*.

Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of July, 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Harriet Karagiannis,

Acting Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. E8–17542 Filed 7–30–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2008–0419]

Request for Comments on the Security and Continued Use of Cesium-137 Chloride Sources and Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting and a request for comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC is conducting a public meeting to solicit early public input on major issues associated with the use of certain forms of cesium chloride (CsCl) currently used by NRC- and Agreement State-licensees. To aid in that process, the NRC is requesting comments on the issues discussed in this notice. While the NRC has not initiated rulemaking on this subject, we are utilizing the conventionally established rulemaking comment channels. Additionally, the NRC is requesting names of individuals to participate at the public meeting in a roundtable discussion of the issues discussed in Sections II and III of this notice.

DATES: *Comment Dates:*

1. Comments on this notice should be submitted by September 30, 2008. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

2. Nominations for participation in the roundtable discussion should be submitted by September 1, 2008.

Public Meeting Dates: The NRC will also take public comments on the issues raised in this notice at a public meeting on September 29–30, 2008. Please refer to the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for additional information.

ADDRESSES: Members of the public are invited and encouraged to submit comments by mail to Michael Lesar, Chief, Rulemaking, Directives, and Editing Branch, Office of Administration, Mail Stop T–6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

You may also submit comments electronically at *http://www.regulations.gov*; search on docket ID: NRC–2008–0419.

To ensure efficient and complete comment resolution, comments should include references to the section and page numbers of the document to which the comment applies, if possible. When commenting on the CsCl issues presented in this notice, please exercise caution with regard to site-specific security-related information. Comments will be made available to the public in their entirety; personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, etc. will not be removed from your submission.

You can access publicly available documents related to this notice using the following methods:

Regulations.gov: Documents related to this notice, including public comments, are accessible at *http://www.regulations.gov*, by searching on docket ID: NRC–2008–0419.

NRC's Public Document Room (PDR): The public may examine and have copied for a fee, publicly available documents at the NRC's PDR, Public File Area O–1F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS): Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC after November 1, 1999, are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html*. From this site, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the PDR Reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737 or by e-mail to *pdr.resource@nrc.gov*.