

§ 7.11 The Designated Federal Officer.

(a) The Chairman of the Commission shall appoint a Designated Federal Officer for each NRC advisory committee and its subcommittees. The individual holding this position must be employed by the Federal Government on either a full-time or a permanent part-time basis.

(b) All meetings of an NRC advisory committee must be convened or approved by the committee's Designated Federal Officer, and the agenda for each committee meeting (except a meeting of a Presidential advisory committee) must be approved by that individual.

(c) An NRC advisory committee may not hold a meeting in the absence of its Designated Federal Officer.

(d) It shall also be the responsibility of the Designated Federal Officer to—

(1) Attend all meetings of the committee for which he or she has been appointed;

(2) Adjourn the meetings of the committee when such adjournment is in the public interest;

(3) Chair the meetings of the committee when so directed by the Commission;

(4) Ensure compliance with the requirements of § 7.13 regarding minutes of meetings of the committee; and

(5) Provide to the NRC Public Document Room copies of committee documents required to be maintained for public inspection and copying pursuant to § 7.14(b).

[54 FR 26948, June 27, 1989; 54 FR 28554, July 6, 1989]

§ 7.12 Public participation in and public notice of advisory committee meetings.

(a) Each meeting of an NRC advisory committee shall be held at a reasonable time and in a place reasonably accessible to the public. The size of the meeting room must be sufficient to accommodate advisory committee members, committee or agency staff, and interested members of the public; except that, the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply where an entire NRC advisory committee meeting has been closed pursuant to § 7.15.

(b) Any member of the public who wishes to do so shall be permitted to

file a written statement with an NRC advisory committee regarding any matter discussed at a meeting of the committee. The committee chairman may also permit members of the public to speak at meetings of the committee in accordance with procedures established by the committee.

(c) Except when the President or his designee determines in writing that no notice should be published for reasons of national security, at least 15 days prior to an NRC advisory committee meeting, a notice that includes the following information shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER:

(1) The exact name of the advisory committee as chartered;

(2) The time, date, place, and purpose of the meeting;

(3) A summary of the agenda of the meeting; and

(4) Whether all or part of the meeting is open to the public.

If any part of the meeting is closed, the notice shall provide the reasons for the closure, citing the specific matter that has been determined to justify the closure under § 7.15.

(d) In exceptional circumstances, less than 15 days notice of an advisory committee meeting may be given, provided that there is as much prior notice as possible and the reasons for the shorter time are included in the committee meeting notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(e) In addition to notice required by paragraph (c) of this section, the NRC may also use other forms of notice, such as public releases and notice by mail, to inform the public of advisory committee meetings. To that end, the Designated Federal Officer of each NRC advisory committee will, to the extent practicable, maintain lists of people and organizations interested in that advisory committee and notify them of meetings by mail.

§ 7.13 Minutes of advisory committee meetings.

(a) Detailed minutes shall be kept of each NRC advisory committee meeting. The minutes shall include the following information:

(1) The time, date, and place of the meeting;

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(2) A list of the attendees at the meeting who are advisory committee members or staff, agency employees, or members of the public who presented oral or written statements;

(3) An estimate of the number of other members of the public who were present;

(4) The extent of public participation; and

(5) An accurate description of each matter discussed during the meeting and its resolution, if any, by the committee.

(b) The minutes of an NRC advisory committee meeting shall include a copy of each report or other document received, issued, or approved by the committee in connection with the meeting. If it is impracticable to attach a document to the minutes, the minutes shall describe the document in sufficient detail to permit it to be identified readily.

(c) The chairperson of an NRC advisory committee shall certify to the accuracy of the minutes of each of the committee's meetings. In the case of a subgroup of an advisory committee, the chairperson of the subgroup shall certify to the accuracy of the minutes.

(d) A verbatim transcript of an advisory committee meeting may be substituted for minutes required by this section, providing that the use of such a transcript is in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section.

§ 7.14 Public information on advisory committees.

(a) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall maintain systematic information on the nature, functions, and operations of each NRC advisory committee. A complete set of the charters of NRC advisory committees and copies of the annual reports required by § 7.17(a) shall be maintained for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room.

(b) Subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and NRC's Freedom of Information Act Regulations (10 CFR part 9, subpart A), copies of NRC advisory committees' records, reports, transcripts, minutes, appendices, working papers, drafts, studies, agenda, and other docu-

ments shall be maintained for public inspection and copying in the NRC Public Document Room.

§ 7.15 Procedures for closing an NRC advisory committee meeting.

(a) To close all or part of a meeting of an NRC advisory committee, the committee shall submit a written request for closure to the Chairman of the Commission, citing specific matter listed in the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), as implemented by 10 CFR 9.104, to justify the closure. The request shall provide the Chairman sufficient time for review in order to make a determination prior to publication of the meeting notice pursuant to § 7.12.

(b) The General Counsel shall review all requests to close meetings of NRC advisory committees.

(c) If the Chairman of the Commission agrees that the request is consistent with the policies of this part, a determination shall be issued in writing that all or part of the meeting will be closed. The determination shall include a statement of the reasons for the closing.

(d) Except when the President or his designee determines in writing that no notice should be published for reasons of national security, the Chairman of the Commission shall make a copy of the determination to close all or part of an NRC advisory committee meeting available to the public upon request, and shall state the reasons why all or part of the meeting is closed, citing the specific matter listed in the Government in the Sunshine Act (as implemented by 10 CFR 9.104) in the meeting notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER pursuant to § 7.12.

(e) The Chairman of the Commission may delegate the Chairman's functions under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section to such officer of the Commission as the Chairman considers appropriate. The General Counsel shall review any determination to close a meeting made by a delegate.

§ 7.16 Annual comprehensive review.

(a) The Chairman of the Commission shall conduct an annual comprehensive