

New Article 33

Old Article 44

Retirement and Resignation

44.1 Retirement Planning

NRC agrees that covered employees ~~who are within 5 years of retirement eligibility~~ shall be given an opportunity to voluntarily participate in a retirement planning program. Priority shall be given to employees who are within 5 years of retirement eligibility. ~~If the Agency seeks to discontinue make any changes in this program or its availability to employees, for budget reasons or otherwise, it shall provide notice and a briefing to the Union. Bargaining over such changes shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures set forth in Article 49 (Contract Related and Other Negotiations).~~ This program, whether established by the NRC or contracted for through another agency may include the following subjects: counseling on tax issues related to retirement, discussions on health problems related to retirement, explanation of social security benefits, explanation of federal health care benefits, as well as any other public health care programs, aspects of senior citizenship, such as wills and estates, and explanations of Federal life insurance benefits as well as life insurance problems associated with the transition between a work and a leisure environment.

44.2 Retirement Information Upon Separation

Each employee who retires will be given an OPM retirement brochure, ~~entitled "Your Retirement System."~~ Upon request, each employee who separates voluntarily or involuntarily (except by retirement) will be informed by the NRC as to his/her rights to file for disability retirement, the possibility of applying for a discontinued service annuity and eligibility for deferred annuity at age 62.

44.3 Withdrawal of a Resignation/Retirement Application

An employee may withdraw a resignation or an application for retirement before its effective date provided the withdrawal is communicated in writing to the employee's supervisor. In accordance with the OPM Retirement Handbook and 5 CFR §715.202, NRC may decline a request to withdraw a resignation or an application for retirement when it has valid reason and explains that reason to the employee. NRC will notify OPM if it approves an employee's request to withdraw his or her retirement application.

44.4 Request for Annuity Information

Upon written request, any employee will be provided with a calculation of their annuity entitlement within ~~40~~ 15 workdays of submitting the request, if practicable.

44.5 Union Notification

The NRC agrees to notify Chapter 208 within 20 workdays after the date that any bargaining unit employee terminates his/her employment.