

Local Sections and Plant Branches: Clarifying the Differences

Recent efforts to increase utility employees involvement in ANS have resulted in increasing interest in Local Sections (LS) and Plant Branches (PB). The information which follows clarifies the differences between LS and PB.

What is an ANS Local Section?

ANS Local Sections are groups of people in a general geographic area with interests in nuclear science and technology. The individuals come together to form a local group that furthers the objectives of the American Nuclear Society. To form a Local Section, at least 20 ANS members living in the proposed geographic area petitions for status as an ANS Local Section. Once authorized by the ANS Board of Directors, an ANS Local Section exists as an ANS "constituent unit" under ANS Bylaws and Rules. Its area of operation is defined by ZIP CODES as determined by its petition and ANS.

What is a Plant Branch?

A Local Section may specify in its governing documents (i.e., Bylaws or Rules) that it may form Plant Branches. Branches draw participants from a specific location or facility – historically but not necessarily a utility plant – which may be at a significant distance from the usual site of the Local Section meetings. (Not all utility plants have ANS Plant Branches.) A Plant Branch may be able to accommodate the specific scheduling challenges of shift workers. Branches exist as subsidiaries of a Local Section and operate under the Standard Bylaws for Local Sections and Rules of the Local Section (and within limits of ANS Bylaws and rules).

What do Local Sections and Branches do?

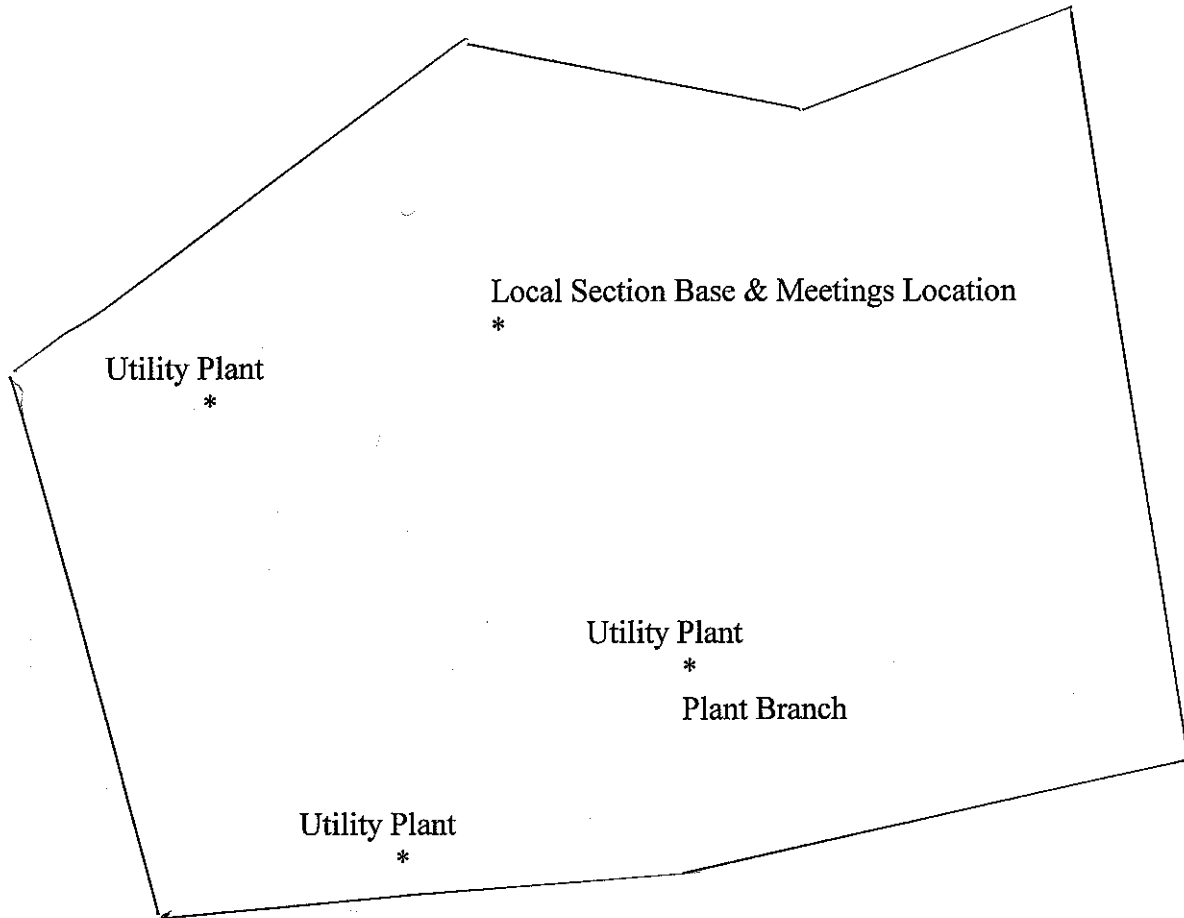
Local Sections and/or Plant Branches schedule periodic meetings where members and guests hear presentations on a variety of topics such as:

- * technical information and other professional topics
- * new programs or governmental policies impacting nuclear science and technology
- * trends in licensing/regulation

Local Sections and/or Plant Branches also plan and conduct outreach into the community. These activities can be as diverse as:

- * cleaning the roadside of trash or distributing smoke detectors
- * sponsoring teacher workshops or making classroom visits
- * sponsoring an information booth at a community event
- * talking to local service clubs and organizations

Example of Local Section/Plant Branch Relationship



Local Section area is defined by ZIP CODES
Plant Branch is related to a specific facility or facilities

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