

Regulatory Program Review for Extended Storage and Transportation

***SFST Licensing Process Conference
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Overview

- **Revisiting the Paradigm**
- **Licensing Process Improvements**
- **Stakeholder Participation**
- **Summary**



Revisiting the Paradigm

- **New alternatives for spent fuel management will rely on several decades of dry storage**
- **NRC has two decades of licensing and oversight experience with dry cask storage and transportation**
- **Industry bears the primary responsibility for storing and transporting spent fuel in a safe and secure manner**



Commission Direction ***(SRM-COMDEK-09-0001)***

- **Undertake a thorough review of spent fuel storage and transport regulatory programs**
 - Adequacy for ensuring safe and secure storage and transportation for extended periods beyond 120 years
 - Research to bolster technical bases of NRC framework
 - Risk-informed and performance-based enhancements
 - State-of-the-art technology incentives
 - Comparing and harmonizing international standards
 - Stakeholder participation and collaboration



Scope of Regulatory Framework Review

- **Regulations**
- **Guidance**
- **Standards**
- **Review Processes**
- **Inspection and Enforcement Procedures**
- **Research**



Project Plan

(COMSECY-10-0007)

- **Regulatory Process Improvements**
 - Licensing
 - Inspection and Enforcement
- **Extended Storage and Transportation**
 - Safety
 - Security
 - Environment

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/comm-secy/2010/>



Project Plan (cont)

- **Cross-Cutting Strategies**
 - Risk-Informing
 - Codes and Standards Development
 - International Cooperation
 - State-of-the-Art Technology Incentives
 - Stakeholder Participation



Projected Timelines

- **Near-Term Process Improvements**
 - **Process Reviews: 2010 - 2012**
 - **Guidance Development: 2011 - 2014**
 - **Potential Rule Changes: 2013 - 2015**
- **Extended Storage and Transportation**
 - **Gap Studies: 2010 - 2014**
 - **Research: 2011 - 2015**
 - **Guidance Development: 2016 - 2017**



Licensing Process Reviews

- **General license and cask certification processes (Lean Six Sigma review)**
- **Site-specific licensing processes**
- **Transportation certification processes**
- **Inspection and enforcement procedures**



Potential Focus Areas

- **Storage and transportation integration**
- **Storage cask rulemaking process**
- **Certificate conditions and change authority**
- **Applicability of general and site-specific license requirements**
- **State-of-the-art technology incentives**



Stakeholder Participation

- **Engage stakeholders on key technical and regulatory issues**
- **Engage DOE, EPRI and industry in long-term aging research activities**
- **Participate in international activities**
- **Provide opportunities for public comment on key regulatory products**



Summary

- **Project plan provided to Commission for further consideration**
- **Licensing and operational experience has demonstrated that spent fuel has been safely managed by industry and regulated by NRC**
- **Stakeholders will have a participative role in reevaluation of spent fuel regulatory programs**