



Update on NRC Activities

Earl P. Easton

Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Oct. 23, 2012



NRC Updates

- Accident and Risk Studies
- Waste Confidence Ruling
- Extended Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation
- Transportation Security Rules



Transportation Risk Studies

- Spent Fuel Transportation Risk Assessment (SFTRA)
- Public comment received
- ACRS Full Committee Meeting -12/6/12
- Final publication 4/30/13.

3



Transportation Risk Studies

- Severe Fire Accident Studies
 - Rail and Highway accident surveys completed
 - Baltimore and Caldicott Tunnel Fire studies completed
 - McArthur Maze and Newhall Pass studies to be issued for public comment in early 2013.

4



Waste Confidence Ruling

- **Status:**
 - Court vacated in June 2012
 - Commission stated that staff reviews will continue, short of license issuance
 - Commission directed staff to issue a new decision and rule within 24 months

5



Waste Confidence Ruling

- **Path Forward**
 - Dedicated organization formed
 - EIS scoping to begin later this week
 - Public Meetings November 14.

6



Extended Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation:

- **Current Status**

- NRC Report on Technical Information Needs
- Draft issued for public comment
- Staff now working to issue as final, incorporating comments

7



Extended Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation:

- **Areas for Technical Investigations**

- Stress corrosion cracking of stainless steel canister body and welds in marine atmosphere
- Effects of residual moisture after drying
- Improved thermal models
- Non-destructive methods for inspection and monitoring
- Potential concrete degradation

8



Extended Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation:

- **Next steps**
 - Assess potential regulatory issues
 - Complete Research Plan for technical investigations
 - Continue technical investigations in high-priority areas
 - Engage industry and other stakeholders
 - Monitor outside technical work

9



Transportation Security Rules

- **10 Part 37 - RAMQC security**
 - Includes transportation security
 - At OMB for document review, after which it will be published.
 - Final rule will be effective 1 year after it's published in the *Federal Register*.
 - Agreement States will have 3 years to develop and issue compatible requirements.

10



U.S. NRC Transportation Security Rules

- **10 Part 73.37 - SNF transportation security**

- At OMB for document review, after which it will be published.
- Final rule will be effective 90 days after it's published, for both NRC and Agreement State licensees. Both rules will probably be published during first quarter of calendar year 2013.

11



U.S. NRC Transportation Security Rules

Advance Notification to Native American Tribes of Transportation of Certain Types of Nuclear Waste (and Spent Nuclear Fuel):

Final published in *Federal Register* on June 12, 2012
Pages 34194 – 34206 [FR DOC # 2012-14082]

Governors' Designees Receiving Advance Notification of Transportation of Certain Shipments of Nuclear Waste and Spent Fuel

Published in *Federal Register* on June 29, 2012
Pages 38859 – 38864 [FR DOC # 2012-15963]

12



NRC Tribal Protocol Manual

- Issued in draft on October 12, 2012
- Open to public comment until April 1, 2013
- Starting point for developing a policy statement on consultation with tribes
- NRC is also seeking suggestions for proposed policy statement on consultation.

- *Draft Tribal Protocol Manual and Scoping for Proposed Policy Statement.*

Published in Federal Register on October 12, 2013
Pages 62269-62270

13



**For additional information
contact:**

earl.easton@nrc.gov

14