



Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Project

The Council of State Governments (CSG)
Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee (MRMTC)
21 May 2025 1300 - 1730
Las Vegas, NV

1300 – 1315	Welcome and Introductions <i>Ryan Seabaugh</i>
1315 - 1335	Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB) Updates <i>Daniel Ogg</i>
1340 – 1355	U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Program Reports Office of Nuclear Energy, <i>Sara Hogan</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including Section 180 (c), Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) Rail/Routing, and SNF Communications and Outreach AHWG updates
1355 – 1410	U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Program Reports Office of Environmental Management, <i>Ellen Edge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Including Planning Committee AHWG update
1410 – 1435	Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP) Update <i>Mark Linsley</i>
1435 – 1450	U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Program Reports Carlsbad Field Office, <i>James Mason</i>
1450 – 1500	Break
1500 - 1525	Package Performance Project <i>Miriam Juckett</i>
1525 - 1550	High Burnup Research Cask Shipment Updates <i>Kevin Connolly</i>
1550 - 1650	Project Status & the Year Ahead <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>C</u>ommunity <u>A</u>naly<u>S</u>i<u>S</u> <u>A</u>ND <u>R</u>eadi<u>N</u>ess <u>A</u>ide (CASSANDRA) Plans• Regional Tribal Engagement• Planning Guide 2025• Communication Strategies• Fall Meeting 2025• <i>Quod Libet</i> <i>Melissa Shahzadeh</i>
1650 - 1725	Regional Roundtable <i>All State and Tribal Participants</i>
1725	Conclusion Review Action Items Closing Remarks
1730	Adjourn





Midwest Radioactive Materials Transportation Project (MRMTP)

Status Report

2025 Annual Spring Meeting

Melissa Shahzadeh, Project Manager (PM)

Items of Note (Fall 2024 Annual Meeting to Spring 2025 Annual Meeting):

- The MRMTC held its Fall 2024 meeting in October 2024 in Bismarck, North Dakota. Ryan Seabaugh (MO) was elected as co-chair and replaced Tad Rumas (OH) who ended his tenure. Mr. Seabaugh will serve with Mark Paulson (WI) as MRMTC leadership. The committee voted to hold the annual 2025 Fall Meeting in Michigan.
- Our Community AnalySiS AND Readiness Aide (CASSANDRA) was successfully deployed at the Lucas County, Ohio Emergency Management Agency in July 2024. Members of police, fire, emergency management, and logistics were present. CASSANDRA was introduced to North Dakota's elected officials and EMA personnel in October. Various Federal Offices expressed interest in CASSANDRA and PM held various virtual meetings with officials during the final months of 2024 and the early months of 2025. The announcement of the transportation location of the High Burn Up Test Cask (HBUTC) has galvanised additional interest in CASSANDRA, and the PM is planning to deploy the Aide as widely as possible throughout the Midwest in the coming years. PM intends 3 CASSANDRA workshops in the Midwest before the end of 2025.
- The Regional Outreach Ad hoc Working Group completed its charge to develop a single sheet (front and back) flyer capturing the essential history of radioactive shipments in the US, the specific history of shipments in the Midwest, and the work of the MRMTC. The flyer was approved by vote in November 2024 and submitted to (and accepted by) the DOE that same month. A single-page infographic identifying the radioactive footprint within the American Midwest was surprisingly vexed but was also approved by vote in November. Both these documents are now housed on the MRMTP project resources web page and will be distributed to elected officials in the Midwest when CSG Midwest staffers engage in their "state visits" and meet individually with state representation. The work group was sunset upon completion of these tasks.
- The Regional Tribal Engagement Ad hoc Working Group has suffered from low interest and flagging participation. The Request for Information distributed to the MRMTC by the working group for local data on Tribal engagement was not returned by all Midwestern states. However, the data collected has been posted to the Public Resources section of the MRMTP. PM has decided to sunset the work group and will be seeking ideas for a new iteration of the effort at the spring meeting.
- PM continues to track developments in the US Army Corp of Engineers shipments of low-level radioactive waste from New York State into Southeast Michigan. There have been no developments since October 2024 when lawsuits were filed against Wayne Disposal Inc., the company that has accepted receipt of the waste. Wayne Disposal has cited the U.S. Constitution's Commerce

Clause in its notice to move the case to U.S. District Court of the Eastern District of Michigan. The company contends the clause "has long provided that 'the problems of waste disposal' represent 'a matter national in scope and in concern'" and does not allow states or local governments to unilaterally stop shipments of out-of-state waste. The municipalities argue the landfill puts their residents in danger by disposing of waste with low levels of radioactivity. They said they were "kept in the dark" about the hazardous material and are not equipped to respond if the material escapes. As of October 2024, the judge presiding over the case has stopped shipments of TENORM waste – technologically enhanced naturally occurring radiological material – from the Niagara site but is permitting other radioactive waste to be imported from other similar sites. The annual fall meeting of the MRMTC will be held in Detroit, Michigan and PM has invited elected officials from Van Buren Township and local environs to participate in a panel discussion during said meeting.

- PM is tracking the restart of the Palisades Nuclear Plant in SW Michigan, and the federal concerns about what has been called a “very very aggressive” restart schedule, particularly in light of the repairs or possible replacement of infrastructure within the plant. PM is also tracking the operating license extension at the Monticello plant in Minnesota until 2050, which is at this point approved federally but still pending at the state level. And PM is tracking the total spent fuel liability in the US, which was reckoned at 37.6 billion at the end of 2024.
- The PM has begun to generate an excerpted, condensed rendition of the 2002 U.S. Department of Energy’s “Final Environmental Impact Statement For a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada.” The purpose is to retain the structure and language of the original but in an abbreviated form to achieve greater accessibility for a wider audience. Whilst minor edits are made in the interest of clarity, these should be considered an abridged reproduction of the original and can be used as a textual supplement to the DOE’s [“Reader’s Guide and Summary.”](#) This abridged EIS is being produced in instalments. Chapter 1 Volume 1 and Chapter 2 Volume 1 is live on the MRMTP resource webpage.

The Council of State Governments

Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee

Committee Leadership: The committee elected its first chair in 1992. In 1994, the committee began electing vice chairs to succeed the chair, with each position having a two-year term. In 2008, the committee changed its leadership structure to have senior and junior co-chairs that serve two-year staggered terms.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Senior co-chair*</u>	<u>Junior co-chair*</u>
2025	Mark Paulson (Wisconsin)	Ryan Seabaugh (Missouri)
2024	Tad Rumas (Ohio)	Mark Paulson (Wisconsin)
2023	Rodney Pitchford (Illinois)	Tad Rumas (Ohio)
2022	Michael Snee (Ohio)	Rodney Pitchford (Illinois)
2021	Tiffany Drake (Missouri)	Michael Snee (Ohio)
2020	Kaci Studer (Indiana)	Tiffany Drake (Missouri)
2019	Greg Gothard (Michigan)	Kaci Studer (Indiana)
2018	Kevin Leuer (Minnesota)	Greg Gothard (Michigan)
2017	Teri Engelhart (Wisconsin)	Kevin Leuer (Minnesota)
2016	Kelly Horn (Illinois)	Teri Engelhart (Wisconsin)
2015	Laura Dresen (Indiana)	Kelly Horn (Illinois)
2014	Jane Beetem (Missouri)	Laura Dresen (Indiana)
2013	Lance Evans (Iowa)	Jane Beetem (Missouri)
2012	Tim Runyon (Illinois)	Lance Evans (Iowa)
2011	Paul Schmidt (Wisconsin)	Tim Runyon (Illinois)
2010	Melanie Rasmusson (Iowa)	Paul Schmidt (Wisconsin)
2009	Kevin Leuer (Minnesota)	Melanie Rasmusson (Iowa)
2008	Jane Beetem (Missouri)	Kevin Leuer (Minnesota)
2007	Robert Owen (Ohio)	Jane Beetem (Missouri)
2006	Robert Owen (Ohio)	Frank Moussa (Kansas)
2005	Thor Strong (Michigan)	Robert Owen (Ohio)
2004	Thor Strong (Michigan)	Robert Owen (Ohio)
2003	Tim Runyon (Illinois)	Thor Strong (Michigan)
2002	Tim Runyon (Illinois)	Thor Strong (Michigan)
2001	Frank Moussa (Kansas)	Tim Runyon (Illinois)
2000	Frank Moussa (Kansas)	Tim Runyon (Illinois)
1999	Don Flater (Iowa)	Frank Moussa (Kansas)
1998	Don Flater (Iowa)	Frank Moussa (Kansas)
1997	David Crose (Indiana)	Don Flater (Iowa)
1996	David Crose (Indiana)	Don Flater (Iowa)
1995	Harold Borchert (Nebraska)	David Crose (Indiana)
1994	Harold Borchert (Nebraska)	David Crose (Indiana)
1993	Harold Borchert (Nebraska)	NA
1992	Harold Borchert (Nebraska)	NA



MIDWEST

Meeting Rotation: The committee holds annual meetings throughout the region. The current plan is for DOE to hold an annual meeting of the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) each spring, with the location rotating among the four regions.

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Midwestern location</u>	<u>Other location</u>
2013: Spring		Buffalo, NY (NTSF)
2013: Fall	Kansas City, KS	
2014: Spring	Bloomington, MN (NTSF)	
2014: Fall	Traverse City, MI	
2015: Spring		Albuquerque, NM (NTSF)
2015: Fall	Des Moines, IA	
2016: Spring		Orlando, FL (NTSF)
2016: Fall	St. Louis, MO	
2017: Spring		Pittsburgh, PA (NTSF)
2017: Fall	Cincinnati, OH	
2018: Spring	Omaha, NE (NTSF)	
2018: Fall	Madison, WI	
2019: Spring		Arlington, VA (NTSF)
2019: Fall	Indianapolis, IN	
2020: Spring		Virtual (NTSF)
2020: Fall	Virtual	
2021: Spring		Virtual (NTSF)
2021: Fall	Chicago, IL	
2022: Spring		Philadelphia, PA (NTSF)
2022: Fall	Rapid City, SD	
2023: Spring	St. Louis, MO (NTSF)	
2023: Fall		Carlsbad, NM
2024: Spring		Denver, CO (NTSF)
2024: Fall	Bismarck, ND	
2025: Spring		Las Vegas, NV (NTSF)
2025: Fall	Detroit, MI	



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**The Council of State Governments
Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee**

Committee Member Roles in 2025

<p>Committee Officers and Liaisons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preside at all meetings of the committee and perform such other duties as may be required • Sign official committee correspondence • Direct the activities of the committee • Represent the committee at meetings of other groups • Participate in one conference call annually to assess the committee's work and identify needed changes to approach, funding sources, scope, etc. 	<p>Chairs: Mark Paulson, Wisconsin Ryan Seabaugh, Missouri Immediate Past Chair: Tad Rumas, Ohio</p>
<p>National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planning Committee</u>: Develop annual meeting agenda and oversee meeting planning; oversee the working groups; develop plans for webinars; prioritize issues for new working groups • <u>Ad hoc working groups</u>: Focus on specific issues and associated tasks; contribute ideas to agendas for the NTSF annual meeting and periodic webinars • Participate in conference calls, webinars, and possible meetings; review/write documents 	<p>Planning Committee: Mark Paulson, Wisconsin Ryan Seabaugh, Missouri Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest Section 180(c) Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG): Greg Gothard, Michigan Swapan Saha, Kansas Ryan Seabaugh, Missouri Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) Rail Route/Transportation AHWG: Edward Engle, Iowa Brian Vercruysse, Illinois Tad Rumas, Ohio Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP) AHWG: Greg Gothard, Michigan Tad Rumas, Ohio SNF Management – Communications and Outreach AHWG: Swapan Saha, Kansas Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest</p>
<p>Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy (DOE-NE) Transportation Core Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent the committee at one or two meetings per year to learn about recent developments related to the Integrated Waste Management System • Participate in conference calls; review/comment on documents 	<p>Mark Paulson, Wisconsin Ryan Seabaugh, Missouri Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest</p>
<p>Regional Tribal Engagement (RTE) Work Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with TRMTC representatives on outreach to Tribes in Midwestern states • Participate in conference calls, webinars, and meetings; review/write documents; present information • Provide guidance to state employees and agencies on how to increase collaboration and communication with regional Tribes 	<p>Michael Bradley, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Nation Scott Doig, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Greg Gothard, Michigan Tim Grant, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska Aaron Kallunki, Minnesota Dan King, Oneida Nation Allie Leber, North Wind Site Services Tansey Moore, National Conference of State Legislatures Heather Westra, Prairie Island Indian Community Melissa Shahzadeh, CSG Midwest – LEAD</p>



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