

April 20, 2001

Mr. Charles Slade
917 Main Street, Room 320
Vancouver, BC
Canada V6A1N1

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Slade:

Thank you for your recent letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in which you requested information about plans for developing standard technical specifications for spent fuel storage casks. You also asked how the specifications would be changed to address a problem of specifications that are too restrictive.

Over the past several years, the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO), which is responsible for the review and approval of spent fuel storage casks, has strived to reduce the level of detail included in technical specifications issued for dry cask designs while maintaining the necessary level of safety in the design, fabrication, and utilization of dry casks. In addition the SFPO staff has been interacting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) in the development of a set of standardized technical specifications (STS) for cask designs.

Specifically, NEI submitted a proposed set of STS for staff consideration in October of 1999. Since that time, the NRC staff has conducted a number of public meetings with NEI and industry representatives to better understand the NEI proposal and to discuss options for reduction in the number of items included in the specifications along with changing the format to be similar to the specifications that are used for nuclear reactors. Recently, based on its evaluation of the NEI proposed STS, the NRC staff developed a minimum set of specifications that could be approved by NRC if adequately supported by analysis and detail in a safety analysis report. On December 21, 2000, NRC sent a copy of these STS to NEI and I have enclosed a copy for your information. Further, NRC intends to issue these specifications as a draft NUREG report in the near future. Applicants or licensees would be encouraged to adopt the format and content of the STS to take advantage of a simplified, less restrictive set of specifications, however, such action would be voluntary.

I trust that I have provided information that adequately responds to your letter. We appreciate your interest in the actions and responsibilities of NRC.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By
M. Wayne Hodges fr
E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

dec 21
4/18

Enclosure: 12/21/00 NEI Letter
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 20, 2001

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Specifically, NEI submitted a proposed set of STS for staff consideration in October of 1999. Since that time, the NRC staff has conducted a number of public meetings with NEI and industry representatives to better understand the NEI proposal and to discuss options for reduction in the number of items included in the specifications along with changing the format to be similar to the specifications that are used for nuclear reactors. Recently, based on its evaluation of the NEI proposed STS, the NRC staff developed a minimum set of specifications that could be approved by NRC if adequately supported by analysis and detail in a safety analysis report. On December 21, 2000, NRC sent a copy of these STS to NEI and I have enclosed a copy for your information. Further, NRC intends to issue these specifications as a draft NUREG report in the near future. Applicants or licensees would be encouraged to adopt the format and content of the STS to take advantage of a simplified, less restrictive set of specifications, however, such action would be voluntary.

I trust that I have provided information that adequately responds to your letter. We appreciate your interest in the actions and responsibilities of NRC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. William Brach".

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: 12/21/00 NEI Letter



December 21, 2000

Ms. Lynette Hendricks, Director
Plant Support
Nuclear Generation Division
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

**SUBJECT: STANDARD FORMAT AND CONTENT FOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
FOR 10 CFR PART 72 CASK CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE**

Dear Ms. Hendricks:

On October 6, 1999, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) NEI 99-06 Revision A, *Standard Improved Technical Specifications and Application of Selection Criteria for Fuel Storage Casks (September 1999)*. The document included a proposed set of standardized technical specifications (STSs) that was intended to provide a uniform and consistent standard for use in developing Technical Specifications (TSs) for cask Certificates of Compliance (CoCs). The NEI initiative was prompted by the general observation that the content and level of detail in TSs and CoCs approved by the NRC vary and that some of the detail is not necessary to be included in TSs. NEI requested that the staff review the format and content of its proposed STS and consider the application and implementation of them. Since receipt of the NEI proposal, the staff has conducted a number of public meetings with NEI and industry representatives. These meetings were held to establish a better understanding of the contents and basis for the NEI proposed STS and discuss the NRC review and comments on the proposal. The Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) has reviewed the NEI STS and concluded that although the staff agrees with some of the concepts embodied in the NEI proposal, the proposed STS do not adequately implement the requirements of 10 CFR 72.44.

The SFPO recently established a team of technical and licensing staff to develop an NRC endorsed set of uniform and consistent STS that could be used by applicants to model their applications. The team considered recently issued TS and the information in NEI 99-06 Revision A and developed a minimum set of specifications that could be approved if an adequate level of detail and supporting analysis was provided in the safety analysis report (SAR).

The team has completed their task and developed a proposed CoC and STS for spent fuel storage casks. In developing the sample STS, the team considered the NEI proposal and then developed philosophical objectives for the final completed STS. After coming to agreement on the philosophical goals, the team identified those items which were found to be important to safe fuel storage that should be included in the STS. The philosophical objectives developed by the team are the following:

ENCLOSURE

L. Hendricks

-3-

We appreciate the efforts you and your team members have expended on this important task. We believe that the enclosed STS is a much improved and simpler to use set of specifications that maintain safety while providing appropriate latitude to license and certificate holders when implementing the 10 CFR 72.48 change process. We look forward to completing this process with a set of STS that will reduce unnecessary burden while increasing efficiency and maintaining an adequate level of safety. If you have any questions please contact me or Mr. Christopher Jackson of my staff at 301-415-2947.

Sincerely,

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

/RA/ original
signed by /s/

Enclosure: As stated
TAC No.: L20679

- Assure that the overall storage goals are met (i.e., maintain adequate sub-criticality, control dose to workers and the public, assure fuel retrievability, and maintain confinement of radioisotopes);
- Remove all unnecessary or excessive detail from the TS;
- Move less significant requirements, limits and parameters into administrative programs that are controlled by the license or certificate holder;
- Make the specifications more performance-based and less prescriptive;
- Establish a new process to change cask contents; and
- Maintain consistency with the site specific requirements in 10 CFR 72.44.

The NRC has identified several limiting conditions for operations (LCOs) that can be controlled by the user in an administrative program. Examples include leak rate testing, surface dose verification, and surface contamination limits. Additionally, the staff has identified several values in the TS that can be controlled by the cask user under an administrative program. Examples include vacuum drying times and cask interseal pressure. The staff notes, that to relocate a requirement or value to an administrative program, a method for developing the value needs to be described in acceptable detail in the SAR.

Some of the LCOs may not be applicable to all cask designs and would be removed or added as appropriate. Examples include requirements on inner-seal gas pressure for bolted canisters, canister transfer facilities if needed by a particular facility, and one time thermal tests when confirmatory benchmarking is needed. There are also a few requirements in the STS where the applicant will be required to identify a completion time, commensurate with safety, or the ultimate safe condition of the cask. These details are usually driven by cask-specific considerations, and the NRC chose to give the applicants the flexibility in choosing inputs that are the most appropriate to the needs of the particular cask. We recognize that there may be cases where cask-specific or unique design features may require additional unique TS provisions. Although, our effort was focused on the TS for general licenses, the format and level of detail presented in this set of TS can be easily translated to the TS for a site-specific license.

We have enclosed the draft proposed STS for discussion at the public meeting scheduled in Rockville, Maryland, on January 23, 2001. We request that your STS team review our proposed format and content and be prepared to discuss this product at the meeting. At this meeting the SFPO will discuss its rationale for the STS and will solicit comments from NEI and industry representatives on the proposal. We will also discuss plans for issuing and implementing the final STS. Following the meeting, we plan to take steps to finalize the STS, including a legal review.

L. Hendricks

-3-

We appreciate the efforts you and your team members have expended on this important task. We believe that the enclosed STS is a much improved and simpler to use set of specifications that maintain safety while providing appropriate latitude to license and certificate holders when implementing the 10 CFR 72.48 change process. We look forward to completing this process with a set of STS that will reduce unnecessary burden while increasing efficiency and maintaining an adequate level of safety. If you have any questions please contact me or Mr. Christopher Jackson of my staff at 301-415-2947.

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E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated
TAC No.: L20679

**STANDARD FORMAT AND CONTENT FOR TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATIONS FOR 10 CFR PART 72 CASK
CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE**

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is issuing this Certificate of Compliance pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 72, "Licensing Requirements for Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste" (10 CFR Part 72). This certificate is issued in accordance with 10 CFR 72.238, certifying that the storage design and contents described below meet the applicable safety standards set forth in 10 CFR Part 72, Subpart L, and on the basis of the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) of the cask design. This certificate is conditional upon fulfilling the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72, as applicable, and the conditions specified below.

Certificate No.	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Docket Number	Amendment No.	Amendment Date	Package Identification No.
XXXX	XX/XX/XX	XX/XX/XX	72-XXXX	0		USA/72-XXXX

Issued To: (Name/Address)

Safety Analysis Report Title

CONDITIONS

This certificate is conditioned upon fulfilling the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72, as applicable, the attached Appendix (Technical Specifications), and the conditions specified below:

1. CASK

a. Model No. XXXXX Cask System

The XXXXX Cask System (the cask) consists of the following components: (1) a canister which contains the fuel; (2) a storage overpack (XXXXXX), which contains the canister during storage; and (3) a transfer cask (YYYYY), which contains the canister during loading, unloading, and transfer operations. The cask stores up to XX fuel assemblies.

b. Description

The XXXXXX Cask System is certified as described in the Safety Analysis Report (SAR) and in NRC's Safety Evaluation Report (SER) accompanying the Certificate of Compliance. The cask comprises three discrete components: the canister, the YYYYY transfer cask, and the XXXXX storage overpack.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS

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**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE
FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS**
Supplemental Sheet

Certificate No. XXXX

Page 2 of 4

1. b. Description (continued)

[The canister is the confinement system for the stored fuel. It is a welded, cylindrical container with a honeycombed fuel basket, a baseplate, a lid, a closure ring, and the canister shell. It is made entirely of stainless steel except for the neutron absorbers and aluminum heat conduction elements. The canister shell, baseplate, lid, vent and drain port cover plates, and closure ring are the main confinement boundary components. The honeycombed basket, which is equipped with Boral neutron absorbers, provides criticality control. The canister holds up to XX PWR fuel assemblies that must be intact.

The YYYY transfer cask provides shielding and structural protection of the canister during loading, unloading, and movement of the canister from the spent fuel pool to the storage overpack. The transfer cask is a multi-walled (carbon steel/lead/carbon steel) cylindrical vessel with a water jacket attached to the exterior. The maximum weight of a loaded transfer cask during any loading, unloading, or transfer operation is XXX tons.

The XXXX storage overpack provides shielding and structural protection of the canister during storage. The overpack is a heavy-walled, steel and concrete, cylindrical vessel. Its side wall consists of plain concrete that is enclosed between inner and outer carbon steel shells. The overpack has four air inlets at the bottom and four air outlets at the top to allow air to circulate naturally through the cavity to cool the canister inside. The inner shell has channels attached to its interior surface to guide the canister during insertion and removal, provide a flexible medium to absorb impact loads, and allow cooling air to circulate through the overpack. A loaded canister is stored within the XXXX storage overpack in a vertical orientation.]

2. OPERATING PROCEDURES

Written operating procedures shall be prepared for cask handling, loading, movement, surveillance, and maintenance. The user's site-specific written operating procedures shall be consistent with the technical basis described in Chapter 8 of the SAR.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE
FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS**
Supplemental Sheet

Certificate No. XXXX

Page 3 of 4

3. ACCEPTANCE TESTS AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Written cask acceptance tests and maintenance program shall be prepared consistent with the technical basis described in Chapter 9 of the SAR.

The heat transfer characteristics of the cask system will be recorded by temperature measurements for the first Spent Fuel Storage Canister (SFSC) System placed into service with a heat load equal to or greater than XX kW. An analysis shall be performed that demonstrates the temperature measurements validate the analytic methods and predicted thermal behavior described in Chapter 4 of the SAR.

Validation tests shall be performed for each subsequent cask system that has a heat load that exceeds a previously validated heat load by more than X kW. (e.g., if the initial test was conducted at XX kW, then no additional testing is needed until the heat load exceeds XX kW). No additional testing is required for a system after it has been tested at a heat load equal to or greater than XX kW.

Letter reports summarizing the results of each validation test shall be submitted to the NRC in accordance with 10 CFR 72.4. Cask users may satisfy these requirements by referencing validation test reports submitted to the NRC by other cask users.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Activities in the areas of design, purchase, fabrication, assembly, inspection, testing, operation, maintenance, repair, modification of structures, systems and components, and decommissioning that are important to safety shall be conducted in accordance with a Commission-approved quality assurance program which satisfies the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 72, Subpart G, and which is established, maintained, and executed with regard to the cask system.

5. HEAVY LOADS REQUIREMENTS

Each lift of a canister, a YYYY transfer cask, or a XXXX overpack must be made in accordance with the existing heavy loads requirements and procedures of the licensed facility at which the lift is made. A plant-specific safety review (under 10 CFR 50.59 or 10 CFR 72.48, if applicable) is required to show operational compliance with existing plant-specific heavy loads requirements. Lifting operations outside of structures governed by 10 CFR Part 50 must be in accordance with Section 4.4 (Cask Transfer Operations) of the Appendix to this certificate.

6. APPROVED CONTENTS

Contents of the XXXX Cask System must meet the fuel description as provided for in the Appendix to this certificate.

7. DESIGN FEATURES

Features or characteristics for the site, cask, or ancillary equipment must be in accordance with the Appendix to this certificate.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE
FOR SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS**
Supplemental Sheet

Certificate No. XXXX

Page 4 of 4

8. PRE-OPERATIONAL TESTING AND TRAINING EXERCISE

A dry run training exercise of the loading, closure, handling, unloading, and transfer of the Cask System shall be conducted by the licensee prior to the first use of the system to load spent fuel assemblies. The training exercise shall not be conducted with spent fuel in the canister. The dry run may be performed in an alternate step sequence from the actual procedures, but all steps must be performed. The dry run shall include, but is not limited to the following:

a. [Each applicant shall list the procedures important to its design.]

9. CHANGES TO THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The holder of this certificate who desires to make changes to the certificate, which includes the Appendix (Technical Specifications) shall submit an application for amendment of the certificate.

10. AUTHORIZATION

The XXXX Cask System, which is authorized by this certificate, is hereby approved for general use by holders of 10 CFR Part 50 licenses for nuclear reactors at reactor sites under the general license issued pursuant to 10 CFR 72.210, subject to the conditions specified by 10 CFR 72.212, and the attached Appendix.

FOR THE U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Attachment: Certificate Appendix

APPENDIX TO
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE No. XXXX
STANDARDIZED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
FOR THE NRC SAMPLE STORAGE CASK

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1.0 USE AND APPLICATION

1.1 Definitions

-----NOTE-----

The defined terms of this section appear in capitalized type and are applicable throughout these Technical Specifications and Bases. [Other definitions such as DAMAGED FUEL and FUEL DEBRIS may need to be added or deleted to be consistent with the design basis.]

TermDefinition

ACTIONS

ACTIONS shall be that part of a Specification that prescribes Required Actions to be taken under designated Conditions within specified Completion Times.

CANISTER

The CANISTER is the sealed SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL container which consists of a basket contained in a cylindrical shell which is welded to a baseplate, lid with welded port cover plates, and closure ring. The CANISTER provides the confinement boundary for the contained radioactive materials.

INTACT FUEL ASSEMBLY

INTACT FUEL ASSEMBLY is a fuel assembly without known or suspected cladding defects greater than a pinhole leak or a hairline crack and which can be handled by normal means. A fuel assembly shall not be classified as an INTACT FUEL ASSEMBLY unless solid Zircaloy or stainless steel rods are used to replace missing fuel rods and which displaces an amount of water equal to that displaced by the original fuel rod(s).

LOADING OPERATIONS

LOADING OPERATIONS include all licensed activities on an OVERPACK or TRANSFER CASK while it is being loaded with fuel assemblies. LOADING OPERATIONS begin when the first fuel assembly is placed in the CANISTER and end when the OVERPACK or TRANSFER CASK is suspended from or secured on the transporter. LOADING OPERATIONS does not include CANISTER transfer between the TRANSFER CASK and the OVERPACK.

(continued)

1.1 Definitions (continued)

OVERPACK	OVERPACK is the cask which receives and contains the sealed CANISTER for interim storage in the independent spent fuel storage instillation (ISFSI). It provides gamma and neutron shielding, and provides for ventilated air flow to promote heat transfer from the CANISTER to the environs. The OVERPACK does not include the TRANSFER CASK.
SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS (SFSCs)	SFSCs are containers approved for the storage of spent fuel assemblies at the ISFSI. The [XXXX] SFSC System consists of the OVERPACK and its integral CANISTER.
SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL	SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL means fuel that has been withdrawn from a nuclear reactor following irradiation, has undergone at least one year's decay since being used as a source of energy in a power reactor and has not been chemically separated into its constituent elements by reprocessing. SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL includes the special nuclear material, byproduct material, source material, and other radioactive materials associated with fuel assemblies.
STORAGE OPERATIONS	STORAGE OPERATIONS include all licensed activities that are performed at the ISFSI while an SFSC containing spent fuel is sitting on a storage pad within the ISFSI perimeter. STORAGE OPERATIONS does not include CANISTER transfer between the TRANSFER CASK and the OVERPACK.
TRANSFER CASK	TRANSFER CASKs are containers designed to contain the CANISTER during and after loading of spent fuel assemblies and to transfer the CANISTER to or from the OVERPACK.

(continued)

1.1 Definitions (continued)

TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

TRANSPORT OPERATIONS include all licensed activities performed on an **OVERPACK** or **TRANSFER CASK** loaded with one or more fuel assemblies when it is being moved to and from the **ISFSI**. **TRANSPORT OPERATIONS** begin when the **OVERPACK** or **TRANSFER CASK** is first suspended from or secured on the transporter and end when the **OVERPACK** or **TRANSFER CASK** is at its destination and no longer secured on or suspended from the transporter. **TRANSPORT OPERATIONS** include transfer of the **CANISTER** between the **OVERPACK** and the **TRANSFER CASK**.

UNLOADING OPERATIONS

UNLOADING OPERATIONS include all licensed activities on an **SFSC** to be unloaded of the contained fuel assemblies. **UNLOADING OPERATIONS** begin when the **OVERPACK** or **TRANSFER CASK** is no longer suspended from or secured on the transporter and end when the last fuel assembly is removed from the **SFSC**. **UNLOADING OPERATIONS** do not include **CANISTER** transfer between the **TRANSFER CASK** and the **OVERPACK**.

1.0 USE AND APPLICATION

1.2 Logical Connectors

PURPOSE The purpose of this section is to explain the meaning of logical connectors.

Logical connectors are used in Technical Specifications (TS) to discriminate between, and yet connect, discrete Conditions, Required Actions, Completion Times, Surveillances, and Frequencies. The only logical connectors that appear in TS are AND and OR. The physical arrangement of these connectors constitutes logical conventions with specific meanings.

BACKGROUND Several levels of logic may be used to state Required Actions. These levels are identified by the placement (or nesting) of the logical connectors and by the number assigned to each Required Action. The first level of logic is identified by the first digit of the number assigned to a Required Action and the placement of the logical connector in the first level of nesting (i.e., left justified with the number of the Required Action). The successive levels of logic are identified by additional digits of the Required Action number and by successive indentions of the logical connectors.

When logical connectors are used to state a Condition, Completion Time, Surveillance, or Frequency, only the first level of logic is used, and the logical connector is left justified with the statement of the Condition, Completion Time, Surveillance, or Frequency.

(continued)

1.2 Logical Connectors (continued)

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate the use of logical connectors.

EXAMPLE 1.2-1

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. LCO not met.	A.1 Verify ... <u>AND</u> A.2 Restore ...	

In this example, the logical connector AND is used to indicate that when in Condition A, both Required Actions A.1 and A.2 must be completed.

(continued)

1.2 Logical Connectors (continued)

EXAMPLES
(continued)

EXAMPLE 1.2-2

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
<p>A. LCO not met.</p>	<p>A.1 Stop . . .</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>A.2.1 Verify . . .</p> <p><u>AND</u></p> <p>A.2.2.1 Reduce . .</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>A.2.2.2 Perform . .</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>A.3 Remove . . .</p>	

This example represents a more complicated use of logical connectors. Required Actions A.1, A.2, and A.3 are alternative choices, only one of which must be performed as indicated by the use of the logical connector OR and the left justified placement. Any one of these three ACTIONS may be chosen. If A.2 is chosen, then both A.2.1 and A.2.2 must be performed as indicated by the logical connector AND. Required Action A.2.2 is met by performing A.2.2.1 or A.2.2.2. The indented position of the logical connector OR indicates that A.2.2.1 and A.2.2.2 are alternative choices, only one of which must be performed.

1.0 USE AND APPLICATION

1.3 Completion Times

PURPOSE	The purpose of this section is to establish the Completion Time convention and to provide guidance for its use.
BACKGROUND	Limiting Conditions for Operation (LCOs) specify the lowest functional capability or performance levels of equipment required for safe operation of the facility. The ACTIONS associated with an LCO state Conditions that typically describe the ways in which the requirements of the LCO can fail to be met. Specified with each stated Condition are Required Action(s) and Completion Times(s).
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Completion Time is the amount of time allowed for completing a Required Action. It is referenced to the time of discovery of a situation (e.g., equipment or variable not within limits) that requires entering an ACTIONS Condition unless otherwise specified, providing the Cask System is in a specified condition stated in the Applicability of the LCO. Required Actions must be completed prior to the expiration of the specified Completion Time. An ACTIONS Condition remains in effect and the Required Actions apply until the Condition no longer exists or the Cask System is not within the LCO Applicability.</p> <p>Once a Condition has been entered, subsequent subsystems, components, or variables expressed in the Condition, discovered to be not within limits, will <u>not</u> result in separate entry into the Condition unless specifically stated. The Required Actions of the Condition continue to apply to each additional failure, with Completion Times based on initial entry into the Condition.</p>

(continued)

1.3 Completion Times (continued)

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate the use of Completion Times with different types of Conditions and changing Conditions.

EXAMPLE 1.3-1

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
B. Required Action and associated Completion Time not met.	B.1 Perform Action B.1.	12 hours
	<u>AND</u> B.2 Perform Action B.2.	36 hours

Condition B has two Required Actions. Each Required Action has its own separate Completion Time. Each Completion Time is referenced to the time that Condition B is entered.

The Required Actions of Condition B are to complete action B.1 within 12 hours AND complete action B.2 within 36 hours. A total of 12 hours is allowed for completing action B.1 and a total of 36 hours (not 48 hours) is allowed for completing action B.2 from the time that Condition B was entered. If action B.1 is completed within 6 hours, the time allowed for completing action B.2 is the next 30 hours because the total time allowed for completing action B.2 is 36 hours.

(continued)

1.3 Completion Times (continued)

EXAMPLES
(continued)

EXAMPLE 1.3-2

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. One system not within limit.	A.1 Restore system to within limit.	7 days
B. Required Action and associated Completion Time not met.	B.1 Complete action B.1.	12 hours
	<u>AND</u> B.2 Complete action B.2.	36 hours

When a system is determined not to meet the LCO, Condition A is entered. If the system is not restored within 7 days, Condition B is also entered and the Completion Time clocks for Required Actions B.1 and B.2 start. If the system is restored after Condition B is entered, Conditions A and B are exited, and therefore, the Required Actions of Condition B may be terminated.

(continued)

1.3 Completion Times (continued)

EXAMPLES
(continued)

EXAMPLE 1.3-3

ACTIONS

-----NOTE-----

Separate Condition entry is allowed for each component.

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. LCO not met.	A.1 Restore compliance with LCO.	4 hours
B. Required Action and associated Completion Time not met.	B.1 Complete action B.1.	6 hours
	<u>AND</u> B.2 Complete action B.2.	12 hours

The Note above the ACTIONS table is a method of modifying how the Completion Time is tracked. If this method of modifying how the Completion Time is tracked was applicable only to a specific Condition, the Note would appear in that Condition rather than at the top of the ACTIONS Table.

The Note allows Condition A to be entered separately for each component and Completion Times tracked on a per component basis. When a component is determined to not meet the LCO, Condition A is entered and its Completion Time starts. If subsequent components are determined to not meet the LCO, Condition A is entered for each component and separate Completion Times start and are tracked for each component.

(continued)

1.3 Completion Times (continued)

IMMEDIATE
COMPLETION
TIME

When "Immediately" is used as a Completion Time, the Required Action should be pursued without delay and in a controlled manner.

1.0 USE AND APPLICATION

1.4 Frequency

PURPOSE The purpose of this section is to define the proper use and application of Frequency requirements.

DESCRIPTION Each Surveillance Requirement (SR) has a specified Frequency in which the Surveillance must be met in order to meet the associated Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO). An understanding of the correct application of the specified Frequency is necessary for compliance with the SR.

The "specified Frequency" is referred to throughout this section and each of the Specifications of Section 3.0, Surveillance Requirement (SR) Applicability. The "specified Frequency" consists of the requirements of the Frequency column of each SR.

Situations where a Surveillance could be required (i.e., its Frequency could expire), but where it is not possible or not desired that it be performed until sometime after the associated LCO is within its Applicability, represent potential SR 3.0.4 conflicts. To avoid these conflicts, the SR (i.e., the Surveillance or the Frequency) is stated such that it is only "required" when it can be and should be performed. With an SR satisfied, SR 3.0.4 imposes no restriction.

(continued)

1.4 Frequency (continued)

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate the various ways that Frequencies are specified.

EXAMPLE 1.4-1

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
Verify pressure within limit.	12 hours

Example 1.4-1 contains the type of SR most often encountered in the Technical Specifications (TS). The Frequency specifies an interval (12 hours) during which the associated Surveillance must be performed at least one time. Performance of the Surveillance initiates the subsequent interval. Although the Frequency is stated as 12 hours, an extension of the time interval to 1.25 times the interval specified in the Frequency is allowed by SR 3.0.2 for operational flexibility. The measurement of this interval continues at all times, even when the SR is not required to be met per SR 3.0.1 (such as when the equipment or variables are outside specified limits, or the facility is outside the Applicability of the LCO). If the interval specified by SR 3.0.2 is exceeded while the facility is in a condition specified in the Applicability of the LCO, the LCO is not met in accordance with SR 3.0.1.

If the interval as specified by SR 3.0.2 is exceeded while the facility is not in a condition specified in the Applicability of the LCO for which performance of the SR is required, the Surveillance must be performed within the Frequency requirements of SR 3.0.2 prior to entry into the specified condition. Failure to do so would result in a violation of SR 3.0.4

(continued)

1.4 Frequency (continued)

EXAMPLES
(continued)

EXAMPLE 1.4-2

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
Verify flow is within limits.	Once within 12 hours prior to starting activity <u>AND</u> 24 hours thereafter

Example 1.4-2 has two Frequencies. The first is a one time performance Frequency, and the second is of the type shown in Example 1.4-1. The logical connector "AND" indicates that both Frequency requirements must be met. Each time the example activity is to be performed, the Surveillance must be performed within 12 hours prior to starting the activity.

The use of "once" indicates a single performance will satisfy the specified Frequency (assuming no other Frequencies are connected by "AND"). This type of Frequency does not qualify for the 25% extension allowed by SR 3.0.2.

"Thereafter" indicates future performances must be established per SR 3.0.2, but only after a specified condition is first met (i.e., the "once" performance in this example). If the specified activity is canceled or not performed, the measurement of both intervals stops. New intervals start upon preparing to restart the specified activity.

Approved Contents

2.0 APPROVED CONTENTS

- 2.1 Cask contents shall be limited to SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL initially approved by the NRC in Table(s) X.X of the FSAR, through the issuance of a cask Certificate of Compliance. ✓
- 2.2 Proposed alternatives to contents listed in Table(s) X.X of the FSAR may be authorized by the Director of The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards or designee. The request for such alternative contents should demonstrate that:
1. The proposed alternative contents would provide an acceptable level of safety, and
 2. The proposed alternative contents are consistent with the applicable requirements.

Requests for alternatives to contents shall be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 72.4.

[A description of the fuel parameters to be listed in Table X.X is provided below:

Fissile Isotopes (UO₂ vs. MOX)
 Maximum Enrichment
 Fuel Class (e.g., 14x14, 15x15)
 Number of Fuel Rods
 Number of Water Holes
 Maximum Burnup
 Minimum Cooling Time
 Minimum Enrichment
 Cladding Material
 BPRA/TPAs (cooling time and burnup)
 Maximum Design Fuel Assembly Weight
 Decay Heat
 Fuel Condition (intact, damaged or debris)

To change these parameters requires NRC approval. All other fuel parameters, also identified in the FSAR, can be changed through the 10 CFR 72.48 process. The parameter list may need to be modified based on unique features of a particular design or for specialized areas such as high burnup fuel and burnup credit. This list is intended for intact fuel. As a result, the list may need to be modified if damaged fuel or fuel debris is stored in the cask.

When preferential loading configurations are part of the design basis, they need to be included in the contents description.]

3.0 LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION (LCO) APPLICABILITY

LCO 3.0.1	LCOs shall be met during specified conditions in the Applicability, except as provided in LCO 3.0.2.
LCO 3.0.2	Upon discovery of a failure to meet an LCO, the Required Actions of the associated Conditions shall be met. If the LCO is met or is no longer applicable prior to expiration of the specified Completion Time(s), completion of the Required Action(s) is not required, unless otherwise stated.
LCO 3.0.3	Not applicable.
LCO 3.0.4	When an LCO is not met, entry into a specified condition in the Applicability shall not be made except when the associated ACTIONS to be entered permit continued operation in the specified condition in the Applicability for an unlimited period of time. This Specification shall not prevent changes in specified conditions in the Applicability that are required to comply with ACTIONS or that are related to the unloading of an SFSC.
LCO 3.0.5	Not applicable.

3.0 SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT (SR) APPLICABILITY

SR 3.0.1 SRs shall be met during the specified conditions in the Applicability for individual LCOs, unless otherwise stated in the SR. Failure to meet a Surveillance, whether such failure is experienced during the performance of the Surveillance or between performances of the Surveillance, shall be failure to meet the LCO. Failure to perform a Surveillance within the specified Frequency shall be failure to meet the LCO except as provided in SR 3.0.3. Surveillances do not have to be performed on equipment or variables outside specified limits.

SR 3.0.2 The specified Frequency for each SR is met if the Surveillance is performed within 1.25 times the interval specified in the Frequency, as measured from the previous performance or as measured from the time a specified condition of the Frequency is met.

For Frequencies specified as "once," the above interval extension does not apply. If a Completion Time requires periodic performance on a "once per..." basis, the above Frequency extension applies to each performance after the initial performance.

Exceptions to this Specification are stated in the individual Specifications.

SR 3.0.3 If it is discovered that a Surveillance was not performed within its specified Frequency, then compliance with the requirement to declare the LCO not met may be delayed, from the time of discovery, up to 24 hours or up to the limit of the specified Frequency, whichever is less. This delay period is permitted to allow performance of the Surveillance.

If the Surveillance is not performed within the delay period, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

(continued)

3.0 SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT (SR) APPLICABILITY

SR 3.0.3 (continued)

When the Surveillance is performed within the delay period and the Surveillance is not met, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

SR 3.0.4 Entry into a specified condition in the Applicability of an LCO shall not be made unless the LCO's Surveillances have been met within their specified Frequency. This provision shall not prevent entry into specified conditions in the Applicability that are required to comply with Actions or that are related to the unloading of an SFSC.

3.1 Fuel Integrity

3.1.1 Fuel Integrity During Drying

LCO 3.1.1 The time after draining the CANISTER and before helium back fill operation is complete shall not exceed [X] hours [the vacuum drying time may be a function of decay heat in a table or chart].

[NOTE: The time specification [X] may be relocated to an administrative program if a methodology for calculating fuel temperature based on decay heat and heatup time is approved by the NRC.]

APPLICABILITY: During LOADING OPERATIONS.

ACTIONS:

-----NOTE-----

Separate Condition entry is allowed for each CANISTER.

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. LCO not met.	A.1 Verify adequate heat removal to prevent exceeding a short-term fuel temperature limit. <u>AND</u> A.2 Complete helium backfill operation.	Immediately [X] days
B. Required Action A.1 OR A.2 and associated Completion Time not met.	B.1 Begin steps to return CANISTER to [the safe condition. The applicant shall propose an appropriate condition and completion time for its design] in a planned and orderly fashion.	Immediately

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE		FREQUENCY
SR 3.1.1	Verify the time after draining the CANISTER and before helium back fill operation is complete shall not exceed [X] days.	Once, prior to TRANSPORT operations

(continued)

Fuel Integrity During Backfill and Transfer
3.1.2

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
SR 3.1.2 Verify that the time after completion helium backfill operation and transference the CANISTER from the transport cask to the storage cask shall not exceed [X] days.	Once, prior to TRANSPORT operations

Note: Required only for those casks with bolted closures and an interseal pressure monitoring system.

3.2 Cask Integrity

3.2.1 Cask Interseal Pressure

LCO 3.2.1 The cask interseal minimum pressure shall be maintained at the value listed in Section xxx of the FSAR, as updated.

APPLICABILITY: During STORAGE OPERATIONS.

ACTION:

-----**NOTE**-----

Separate Condition entry is allowed for each SFSC.

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. Cask interseal pressure below limit.	A.1 Re-establish cask interseal pressure above limit.	[7] days
B. Required Action A.1 and associated Completion time not met.	B.1 Begin steps to return SFSC to [the safe condition. The applicant shall propose an appropriate condition and completion time for its design] in a planned and orderly fashion.	[30] days

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE		FREQUENCY
SR 3.2.1	Verify cask interseal helium pressure above limit.	[7] days
SR 3.2.2	Perform a channel operational test to verify proper function of pressure switch/transducer on cask overpressure system.	Once, within [7] days of commencing storage operations and every [36] months thereafter

Note: Required only for those casks that take credit for boron in the water for criticality control. Not needed for BWR plants.

3.3 Cask Criticality Control Program

3.3.1 Dissolved Boron Concentration

LCO 3.3.1 During loading and while loaded, the dissolved boron concentration in the water of the CANISTER cavity shall be at least [XXX] ppm.

[NOTE: The boron concentration [XXX] may be relocated to an administrative program if a methodology for calculating k-eff of the spent fuel storage CANISTER is approved by the NRC.]

APPLICABILITY: During LOADING and UNLOADING OPERATIONS.

ACTIONS:

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
B. Dissolved boron concentration not met.	A.1 Suspend loading of fuel assemblies into cask. <u>AND</u> A.2 Remove all fuel assemblies from cask.	Immediately [24] hours

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
<p>SR 3.3.1.1 Verify the dissolved boron concentration is met using two independent measurements.</p>	<p>Within [4] hours prior to commencing LOADING OPERATIONS</p> <p><u>AND</u></p> <p>every [48] hours thereafter while the cask is in the spent fuel pool or while water is in the cask</p>
<p>SR 3.3.1.2 Verify the dissolved boron concentration is met using two independent measurements.</p>	<p>Within [4] hours prior to commencing UNLOADING OPERATIONS</p> <p><u>AND</u></p> <p>every [48] hours thereafter while the cask is in the spent fuel pool or while water is in the cask</p>

Note: This specification is only required if:

- a. Boron credit is assumed in the criticality analysis, and/or*
- b. Optimum moderation is not assumed in the criticality analysis.*

3.3.2 CANISTER Water Temperature

LCO 3.3.2 In a water filled condition, the temperature of the water in the canister shall not exceed 200 °F [alternatively, in lieu of a temperature limit, a time limit can be applied that is based on decay heat].

APPLICABILITY: During **LOADING** and **UNLOADING OPERATIONS**.

ACTIONS:

-----**NOTE**-----

Separate Condition entry is allowed for each CANISTER system.

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. CANISTER water temperature limit not met.	A.1 Establish water circulation in the CANISTER and restore CANISTER water temperature to less than 200°F.	[2] hours
B. Required Action and Associated Completion time not met.	B.1 Begin steps to return CANISTER to [the safe condition. The applicant shall propose an appropriate condition and completion time for its design] in a planned and orderly fashion.	Immediately

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
SR 3.3.2 Verify temperature of the water in the CANISTER has not exceeded 200 °F.	Once within [18] hours after TRANSFER CASK with loaded CANISTER is removed from fuel pool <u>AND</u> Every [30] minutes thereafter

4.0 DESIGN FEATURES

4.1 Design Features Significant to Safety

4.1.1 Criticality Control

[Items listed in 4.1.1 are those which would have a significant effect on safety if altered or modified. Item 1 and/or 2 may be removed if the application includes an analysis which shows that the parameter does not significantly affect criticality safety in the particular design.]

1. Flux trap size or fuel cell spacing: $\geq [X.XX]$ in. *- BWR-6 STS*
2. ^{10}B loading in the Boral neutron absorbers: $\geq [X.XX]$ g/cm²

4.1.2 Materials

1. Protective coatings used inside the cask
2. Neutron Absorbers and Shields
3. Containment Boundary Seals

Instead of specifying a material directly, the applicant may propose a set of performance standards along with proposed methods for determining that the material will meet the applicable standards.

Note: Section 4.1.2 may be incorporated into the Cask Description in Condition 1.b. of the Certificate of Compliance if the applicant prefers.]

4.2 Codes and Standards

The following provides information on the governing codes for components of the [XXX] cask design:

Cask Component Important to Safety	Applicable Codes	Editions/Years
[]	[]	[]

4.2.1 Alternatives to Codes, Standards, and Criteria

Table [X.XX] of the FSAR lists approved alternatives to the [code(s) of record] for the design of the Cask System.

(continued)

4.2.2 Construction/Fabrication Alternatives to Codes, Standards, and Criteria

Proposed alternatives to the [code(s) of record] including alternatives allowed by Table X.XX of the FSAR may be used when authorized by the Director of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards or designee. The request for such alternatives should demonstrate that:

1. The proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or
2. Compliance with the specified requirements of the [code of record] would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety.

Requests for alternatives shall be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 72.4.

4.3 Structural Performance

4.3.1 Earthquake Loads

The spent fuel storage cask design earthquake load on the top surface of the ISFSI pad shall not exceed:

Horizontal Peak Acceleration in each of the two orthogonal Directions	Corresponding Vertical Peak Accelerations
[XX]	[XX]

4.3.2 Design G-loads

The fission product barrier design g-loads due to postulated handling accidents shall not exceed:

Fission Product Barrier	End Drop	Side Drop	Tipover
[Cask and/or CANISTER]	[XX]	[XX]	[XX]

4.4 Cask Handling/ CANISTER Transfer Facility

[Note that certain designs may require a specification for operations outside of the Part 50 facility.]

5.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

5.1 Administrative Programs

The following programs shall be established, implemented, and maintained:

5.1.1 Radioactive Effluent Control Program

A program shall be established that includes:

1. Implementation of the requirements of 10 CFR 72.44(d).
2. Limits on the surface contamination and verification of meeting those limits prior to removal of the cask from the Part 50 structure,
3. Limits on the leakage rate and verification of meeting those limits prior to removal of the cask from the Part 50 structure, and,
4. An effluent monitoring program, if the surface contamination limits are greater than the values specified in [Regulatory Guide 1.86 or an NRC-approved methodology in the FSAR can be inserted in place of RG-1.86]; or if the leakage rate limits are greater than the values specified as "leaktight" in [ANSI N14.5 - 1997 "Leakage Tests on Packages for Shipment" or an NRC-approved methodology in the FSAR can be inserted in place of ANSI N14.5].

5.1.2 Cask Loading, Unloading, and Preparation Program

A program shall be established to implement the FSAR requirements for loading fuel and components into the cask, unloading fuel and components from the cask, and preparing the cask for storage. The requirements of the program for loading and preparing the cask shall be complete prior to removing the cask from the 10 CFR Part 50 structure. [Items 1, 5, and 6 are associated with requirements that will remain in the STS, however, the process for establishing the specified action limit may be moved to this administrative program if a method of evaluation acceptable to the NRC is presented in the FSAR. Items 2, 3, and 4 have been relocated from the LCO section to this administrative program because it is felt that NRC approved methods of evaluation will be relatively easy to develop. If appropriate methods are not presented in the FSAR, these items will retain LCOs.]

At a minimum, the program shall establish criteria that need to be verified to address FSAR commitments and regulatory requirements for:

(continued)

5.0 Administrative Controls (continued)

1. Vacuum drying times and pressures to assure that the short-term fuel temperature limits are not violated and the cask is adequately dry,
2. Inerting pressure and purity to assure adequate heat transfer and corrosion control,
3. Leak testing to assure adequate cask integrity and consistency with the offsite dose analysis,
4. Surface dose rates to assure proper loading and consistency with the offsite dose analysis,
5. Ambient and pool water temperature to assure adequate subcriticality and material ductility,
6. Spent fuel pool boron concentration to verify the acceptable subcriticality margin, and
7. [Clad oxidation thickness for high-burnup fuel in accordance with ISG-11 or other NRC-approved methodology if high-burnup fuel is included in the contents.]

The program shall include compensatory measures and appropriate completion times if the program requirements are not met.

5.1.3 ISFSI Operations Program

A program shall be established to implement the FSAR requirements for ISFSI Operations.

At a minimum, the program shall establish criteria that need to be verified for:

1. Minimum cask center-to-center spacing,
 2. Pad parameters (i.e., pad thickness, concrete strength, soil modulus, reinforcement, etc.) that are consistent with the FSAR analysis, and
 3. Maximum lifting heights for the cask system to ensure that the g-load limits in the table in Section 4.3.2 are met for the design basis events.
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