

# **Improving Decommissioning Regulations**

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# **NRC's Key Messages**

- 1. Maintain safety**
- 2. Enhance public confidence**
- 3. Improve effectiveness and efficiency**
- 4. Reduce unnecessary regulatory burden**

# **SECY 99-168 Overview**

- ♦ **Five year schedule**
- ♦ **Additional issues need to be addressed**
- ♦ **Additional guidance will assist decommissioning plants**

# **Significant Issues Need to be Addressed**

- ♦ **Site remediation criteria**
- ♦ **Design basis accidents**
- ♦ **Application of Part 50**
- ♦ **Rules for long term storage of HLW  
(10 CFR 72)**

# **Consistent Application of Existing Regulations**

- ◆ **Some inconsistency continues to exist (Security, FFD, QA, EP, FP, Codes & Standards, etc.)**
- ◆ **Regulation by exemption**
- ◆ **NUREG 6451 provides reasonable guidance**

# **Competing and Conflicting Regulatory Mandates need to be Resolved**

- ♦ **EPA vs NRC site remediation requirements**
- ♦ **On site disposal of "clean waste" needs clarification**
- ♦ **NRC/EPA need to resolve total activity and/or average allowed concentrations**

# **Rules for Long Term Storage of HLW (10 CFR 72)**

- ♦ **General vs. Site Specific Part 72 license**
- ♦ **Site specific license will add burden, \$\$, and public hearings**
- ♦ **Part 50 does not properly address HLW storage**
- ♦ **Some licensees apply sections of Part 50 and Part 72**

# Will Store HLW Without Clear Regulations

- ♦ 10 CFR 50 does not properly address HLW storage
- ♦ 10 CFR 72 provides clear regulations for HLW storage
- ♦ General (Part 72, Subpart K) license only intended for operating reactors

# **All Design Bases Accidents Need to be Addressed**

- ◆ **Need to be risk based**
- ◆ **Considers zirconium fire**
- ◆ **Need to consider potential criticality**
- ◆ **Need to address other potential accidents**

# **Recommendations for the Commission**

- ◆ **Provide interim guidance (NUREG 6451) for decommissioning**
- ◆ **Direct the staff to proceed with rulemaking on an accelerated schedule**
- ◆ **Apply site specific requirements of 10 CFR 72 to decommissioning plants**

# **Recommendations for the Commission**

- ♦ **Evaluate all potential accidents**
- ♦ **Establish clear site remediation criteria**
- ♦ **Assure consistency and establish predictability**
- ♦ **Work closely with all stakeholders to enhance public confidence**