



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

August 23, 1994

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The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

During my June 6, 1994, presentation to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the status of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program, you raised a question concerning the resources that will be required by the Commission to conduct timely reviews of materials planned to be submitted by the Department of Energy. Table 3 of my June 6th Statement for the Record addressed planned submittals for the remainder of FY 1994 and FY 1995 for the Yucca Mountain Project.

As you are aware, the development of the Multi-Purpose Canister-Based System is also a priority at the Department of Energy. The enclosed table lists planned submittals, projected target dates, and suggested Department of Energy/Nuclear Regulatory Commission interactions with regard to development of the Multi-Purpose Canister-Based System.

I hope this information will assist you in planning the Commission resources necessary to support our program. If you require additional information, please call me at (202) 586-6842.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Dreyfus, Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure

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**PLANNED NEAR-TERM DOE SUBMITTALS AND INTERACTIONS
REGARDING NRC APPROVAL OF CERTAIN COMPONENTS OF
THE MULTI-PURPOSE CANISTER-BASED SYSTEM**

- **Topical Report - Burnup Credit (PWR Fuel - Storage/Transport)**
 - Planned submittal by DOE - late FY 1994/Early FY 1995
 - SER target date - late 1995
- **Topical Report - Burnup Credit (PWR/BWR Fuel - Disposal)**
 - Planned submittal by DOE - Late FY 1995/Early FY 1996
 - SER target date - FY 1996 - FY 1997
- **Applications by vendor on behalf of DOE for Certification of GA-4 (without burnup credit) and GA-9 Transport Casks**
 - Actual submittal - FY 1994 (GA-9 application submitted on July 22, 1994; GA-4 application to be submitted in September 1994). Burnup credit not needed for GA-9 BWR cask.
 - CoCs target date - FY 1995 - FY 1996
- **Application by vendor on behalf of DOE for Certification of the Burnup Credit Version of the GA-4 Transport Cask (higher enriched PWR fuel)**
 - Planned submittal of revision to SAR above - FY 1995 - FY 1996
 - CoC target date FY 1996 FY 1997
- **DOE/NRC Pre-application Meetings with Vendors Concerning the Design and Certification of the MPC transportation and storage components**
 - 15-30 Meetings Expected in FY 1995
- **Applications by vendor on behalf of DOE for Certificates of Compliance for MPC and Overpacks for Storage and Transport**
 - Planned submittal of 6 - 12 Applications - Early 1996
 - CoCs target date - mid-1997

(It is anticipated that each vendor team will submit six MPC-related SARs. Four Certificates of Compliance will be required for storage casks - large PWR MPC, large BWR MPC, small PWR MPC, and small BWR MPC. Two Certificates of Compliance will be required for transportation casks - large PWR/BWR MPC and small PWR/BWR MPC. It is anticipated that more than one vendor team may proceed to the cask certification phase. Thus, six or more applications may be submitted to the Commission to support the MPC program. Pre-submittal discussions will be held with NRC staff to determine, among other things, how best to combine applications from a single vendor, should the staff desire such an approach).

- **Topical Report Addressing 10 CFR Part 60 Considerations for the MPC Design**
 - Planned submittal - 1996
 - Finding of "no objection" by NRC - mid-1997
- **DOE/NRC Interactions Concerning Bare Fuel Transfer System**
 - Interactions to be Initiated - 1995

cc:

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