

Approved For Publication

The Commission delegated to the EDO (10 CFR 1.32(c)) the authority to develop and promulgate rules as defined in the APA (5 U.S.C. 551(4)) subject to the limitations in NRC Management Directive 9.17, Organization and Functions, Office of the Executive Director for Operations, paragraphs 0213, 038, 039, and 0310.

The attached direct final rule entitled "List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Standardized NUHOMS[®]-24P, -52B, -61BT, -32PT, and -24PHB Revision" amends 10 CFR Part 72 by revising the Transnuclear, Inc., Standardized NUHOMS[®] Horizontal Modular Storage System (Standardized NUHOMS[®] System) listing within the "List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks." This amendment will add the NUHOMS[®]-24PHB cask design to the Standardized NUHOMS[®] System. The NUHOMS[®]-24PHB cask design will permit a Part 72 licensee to store high burnup Babcock & Wilcox 15x15 spent fuel assemblies with an average burnup of up to 55,000 megawatt-days/metric ton of uranium, enrichment equal to 4.5 weight percent uranium-235, a maximum decay heat load of 1.3 kilowatt (kW) per assembly, and a maximum heat load of 24 kW per cask, under a general license.

This direct final rule does not constitute a significant question of policy, nor does it amend regulations contained in 10 CFR Parts 7, 8, or 9, Subpart C, concerning matters of policy. I, therefore, find that this rule is within the scope of my rulemaking authority and am proceeding to issue it.

September 11, 2003

Date

/RA/

William D. Travers,
Executive Director for Operations.