

Public Access to Sensitive NRC Documents

Briefing to EDO

November 20, 2001

6-8

Topics

- Background
- Document Collections
- Communication with Entities
- Issues
- Factors in NRC Decision-making

Background

- Previous to ADAMS, NRC documents widely disseminated through:
 - Former Local Public Document Rooms
 - Government Printing Office (GPO)
 - Federal Depository Libraries
 - GPO and National Technical Information Service's (NTIS) Sales Programs

Document Collections

- Collections vary for these entities in terms of content and format.
- Collections are owned by these entities rather than the NRC.
- A very small number of documents in these collections are now considered sensitive and are being removed from the ADAMS Public Library and restricted from public access in the PDR

Communication with Entities

- Chairman told RAs that utilities could take actions they believed appropriate with regard to NRC documents housed in libraries.
- Numerous libraries and utilities calling PDR asking for guidance.
- Formally communicated with NTIS and GPO regarding options for removing or restricting public access to sensitive documents.

Issues

- We can request but not require that entities take actions.
- GPO will not allow removal of indexes to control public access to individual documents on 48x microfiche, which restricts options.
- NRC not currently consistent in public access to its documents.

Factors in NRC Decision-making

- Libraries report low to no usage of NRC document collections
- Limited choices with regard to 48x microfiche collection
- Review of NRC documents and criteria ongoing.
- Any actions taken now may be difficult to undo.