



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Overview of Environmental Impact Statement for the Western New York Nuclear Service Center

Anna H. Bradford

*Environmental and Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection*

Contact info: (301) 415-5228, ahb1@nrc.gov

Presented to: The 149th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, April 20-22, 2004



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Presentation Outline

- EIS Background
- EIS Status and Alternatives
- Issues to be Addressed in EIS
- Schedule



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

History of Environmental Impact Statement

- Draft EIS was published in January 1996
- NRC staff provided extensive comments on the DEIS
 - LTR was not promulgated
 - Policy Statement was not published
- In 2001, DOE's NEPA strategy was revised
 - Waste Management EIS
 - Decommissioning and Long-Term Stewardship EIS



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Status of EISs

Waste Management EIS

- Final EIS released in December 2003
- Record of Decision not yet published
- NRC not involved with this EIS

Decommissioning EIS

- Notice of Intent was published in March 2003
- DOE and NYSERDA are co-leads
- NRC, EPA, and NYSDEC are cooperating agencies
- NRC staff is currently reviewing draft, predecisional documents



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Decommissioning EIS Alternatives

Current alternatives proposed for EIS:

- Unrestricted release for entire site
- Unrestricted release for north plateau, continued license for south plateau
- Restricted release for north plateau (process building rubbleized), continued license for south plateau
- Monitor and maintain entire site (no-action alternative)
- Restricted release for north plateau (process building standing), continued license for south plateau (DOE's preferred alternative)



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Issues to be Addressed in EIS

- Performance Assessment (PA) for EIS should be same as PA for Decommissioning Plan
- EIS should evaluate the entire 3,300-acre site, including the SDA
- Impacts beyond 1,000 years should be analyzed
- Impacts from incidental waste should be evaluated
- A cost/benefit analysis should be included



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Recent Cooperating Agency Reviews

- NDA and SDA Characterization Reports
- HLW Tank Farm Characterization Report
- Four EIS Appendices Related to PA
 - Long-Term PA Methodology (App. D)
 - Long-Term PA Models (App. E)
 - Hydrogeology Analysis (App. J)
 - Erosion Studies (App. L)



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

EIS Schedule

- Meeting on Four PA Appendices – May 2004
- PA Results Appendix - October 2005
- Environmental Consequences Chapter – January 2006
- Draft EIS Public Release – November 2006
- Six-Month Public Comment Period
- Final EIS Public Release – October 2007