Grandfathering of Competent Authority Approved Packages

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Transitional Arrangements (Grandfathering)

- Allows continued use of previously approved packages
- Limits construction of new packagings
- Limits types of changes that can be made to the design
NRC Implementation of Grandfathering

- Consistent with IAEA
- Safety-significant modifications require package upgrade
- Complete application for upgrade
  - New regulatory requirements addressed
  - New review guidance considered
  - Packaging drawings reviewed
  - Acceptance tests reviewed
Concerns with Grandfathering

- **1996 IAEA Changes**
  - Terminated use of 1967 packages
  - Moved to 2-year revision cycle

- **Potential impact to certified designs**
  - Regulations become “moving target”
  - Rapid phase-out of certified packages
New Approach for Grandfathering

- Package standards are stable
  - Changes should be based only on safety
  - Regulatory stability is important to safety

- Changes in package standards few
  - Each change could include its own transitional arrangement
  - Certificate would indicate compliance
Advantages of New Approach

- IAEA revision process would dictate transitional arrangement
- Transitional period based on safety
- No generic grandfathering necessary
Conclusions

- Regulatory stability in package standards
- Grandfathering can be improved
- Consider specific transitional arrangements for each change in regulation