

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

Committee on Safety and Security of Commercial Nuclear Spent Fuel Storage Board on Radioactive Waste Management

A National Research Council study committee has been formed under the auspices of the Board on Radioactive Waste Management to provide an assessment of the following:

- (1) potential safety and security risks of spent nuclear fuel presently stored in cooling pools at commercial reactor sites;
- (2) safety and security advantages, if any, of dry cask storage versus wet pool storage at these reactor sites; and
- (3) potential safety and security advantages, if any, of dry cask storage using various single-, dual-, and multi-purpose cask designs.

In light of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, this study will explicitly consider the risks of terrorist attacks on these materials and the risk these materials might be used to construct a radiological dispersal device. The project, which is congressionally mandated, is sponsored by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Department of Homeland Security.

A classified report is expected to be delivered to the Congress in June 2004 and an unclassified summary of this report will be issued as soon as practicable thereafter.

For up-to-date information about the study (including meeting dates, agendas, committee membership, and biographical sketches) please visit the following website: www.national-academies.org/brwm and select the link "Current Projects."

A list of committee members follows:

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Carl A. Alexander, Battelle National Laboratories, Grove City, OH
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