

Industry Groundwater Protection Initiative

Status Update
August 10, 2006



Industry Initiative on Groundwater Protection

- Formed technical task force – November 2005
- Public meeting with NRC – December 2005
- Instituted weekly task force conference calls – January 2006
- Formed executive task force – February 2006
- Public meeting with NRC – March 2006
- Proposed initiative to industry executives – April 2006
- Initiative passed unanimously by utility executives – May 2006
- Industry decision on public submittal to NRC of baseline data – May 2006
- Public meeting with NRC – May 2006
- Industry lessons-learned workshop – June 2006
- Public meeting with NRC – June 2006
- Public issuance of initiative implementation guidance – July 2006
- Implementation of industry initiative – July 31, 2006 (August 4, 2006)
- Public submittal to NRC of baseline data – July 31, 2006 (August 4, 2006)

Industry Initiative Objectives

- Improve management of inadvertent liquid radiological releases
- Prevent migration of licensed radioactive materials offsite
- Quantify impacts on decommissioning
- Enhance public trust and confidence

Action Plans

- Action plan for each company/site
- Action plan elements
 - Assess sources and pathways
 - Review site operating history
 - Assess site geo-hydrology
 - Assess current site monitoring program
- Follow-up actions will be site-specific

Communications Protocol

- Prompt communication with state/local representatives and NRC (within 1 working day)
 - Inadvertent releases >100 gallons
 - Identified leakage from spent fuel pools and other systems
 - Groundwater sample results >RETS-REMP criteria
- Follow-up communication with state/local representatives and NRC (within 30 days) on groundwater sample results
 - Consistent with RETS-REMP criteria
- Annual reporting to state/local representatives and NRC (as part of annual RETS and REMP reports):
 - All groundwater sample results
 - Summary description of inadvertent releases and system leakage

RETS = Radiological Effluent Technical Specifications

REMP = Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program



Voluntary Data Collection

- In support of the industry initiative
- Public submittal to NRC to establish common baseline information
- Scope:
 - Leak detection and prevention program
 - Groundwater monitoring program
 - Historical occurrences (10 CFR 50.75(g) records)
 - Groundwater radioactivity levels
 - Remediation undertaken or planned

Status – Industry Actions

- Action plans and communication protocols are in place for sites with operating plants and active decommissioning sites.
- Survey questionnaires were submitted by all sites with operating plants and active decommissioning sites.
- Some decommissioning sites in license termination process are being evaluated on a case basis.

Next Actions

- Collect and evaluate baseline information, action plans and communications protocols
- EPRI-NEI industry workshop on groundwater monitoring - Sep 12-13, 2006
- Initiate peer assessments and benchmarking
- Conduct lessons-learned workshop (with NRC and other stakeholders) – Jan 2007
- Issue final implementation guidance – Mar 2007