



**U.S. NRC**  
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
*Protecting People and the Environment*

**Overview of NRC Program Plans  
for  
Updating the Waste Confidence Decision  
and  
Extended Storage and Transportation**

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# Two Complementary Initiatives

- Waste Confidence Decision
  - Generic determination; not site specific, not for specific licensing reviews or decisions
  - Updated in 2010 for licensed facility life plus 60 years
  - Commission directed staff to prepare separate long-term update for beyond life plus 60 years
- Extended Storage and Transportation (EST)
  - Principally technical studies to provide basis for safe storage over longer periods, and related transportation
  - May involve changes to NRC storage and transportation regulations and guidance
- Staff wants to effectively engage stakeholders for both initiatives

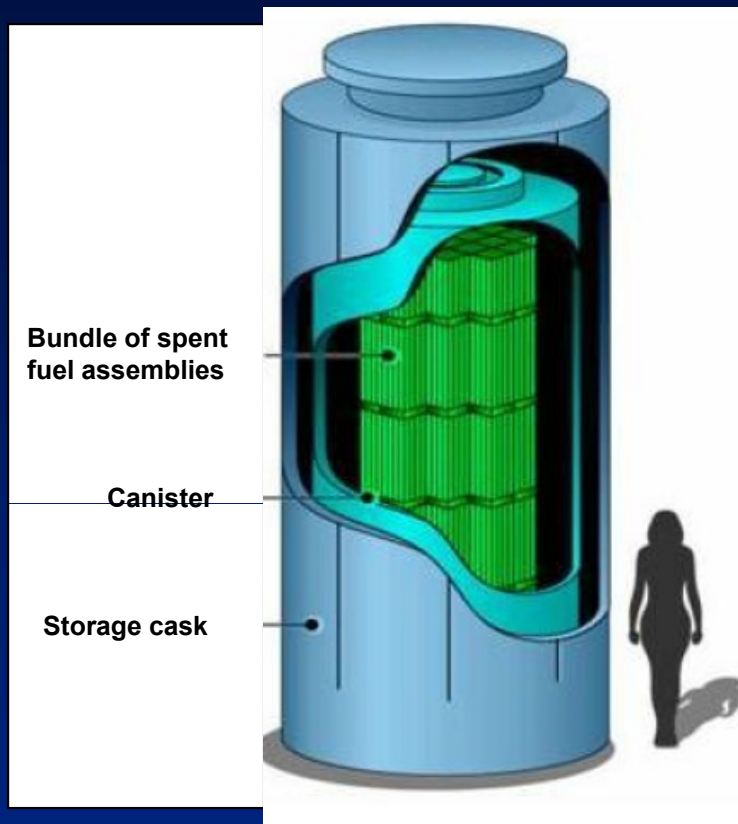


# Waste Confidence and EST

## *Common Interests, Complementary Goals*

- Commercial spent nuclear fuel
- Dry storage over long periods
- Same system, effects, and processes
- Same types of technical information
- Waste Confidence: Focus on Environmental Impacts
  - Broad scope, representative analyses
  - NEPA process
- EST: Focus on Technical Basis for Licensing Actions
  - Significance for performance for safety
  - Supports regulations, guidance, application review, and decision

# Dry Cask Storage Systems



- Spent fuel assemblies in inert dry atmosphere
- Vertical or horizontal
- Different designs in use

# Engagement Opportunities

- Multi-year, multi-phase projects
- Initial NRC staff efforts are to clearly define tasks and develop plans and schedules
- Staff are now preparing draft reports for each initiative
- Drafts will be issued for public comment later this fall
- NRC NEPA process provides for public engagement
- Expect to have more reports for comment, and more public meetings
- Seeking best ways to continue productive interaction