

United States Nuclea: Regulatory Commission

Productions People and the Economics

## Spent Fuel Transportation Risk Assessment at SNL Overview

- What is it (outcome)?

- A NUREG that analyzes the risks of transporting SNF, including risks from routine transportation and transportation accidents. The risks from very severe, extra-regulatory accidents are also analyzed. Canistered fuel transportation is considered. The document revisits and finalizes NUREG/CR-6672. A draft of the NUREG will be reviewed by staff, then externally peer-reviewed and reviewed by the public.
- Why is it being done?
  - · Background: role, mission, issues & considerations
    - NRC's safety & outreach responsibilities
    - Potential shipments
    - Continuing review [FEIS (NUREG-0170), "Modal Study" (NUREG/CR-4829), "Reexamination..." (NUREG/CR-6672)]
    - Safety not at issue
  - Purpose: how will it be used?
    - Solicit and respond to public comment
    - Refine explanation of level of safety in spent fuel transportation
    - Answer NUREG/CR-6672 and PPS-related questions
    - Provide updated benchmark for environmental assessments
  - · Objective?
    - Further quantify consequences and probabilities of severe accidents
- How is it being done (methodology)?
  - Draft NUREG: Computer modeling and analysis, following basic NUREG/CR-6672 approach
  - Final NUREG: Revised Draft NUREG based on response to staff, peer review and public comments
- What might it say (results preview)?
  - Part I Comparison
    - Previous studies indicated...
    - This study estimates that...
    - Progressive reduction in estimated risk as analytical fidelity increases
  - Part II Conclusions based on findings
    - Lowers previous (already low) estimates of risk
    - Reconfirms NRC's finding that SNF transport risks are acceptably low
    - Apparently no releases from SNF shipments with inner welded canister
    - Release of material during SNF shipment is, say, less than a 1 in 10,000,000 event
- Who is it for?
  - Public, media, industry, States, NRC and other federal agencies



## **Project Status and Schedule**

## Draft NUREG Report (MD 3.7/NUREG-0650) Graded structure/content

- Public summary [All public]
- Main body text [states, general science public, science media]
- Appendices [industry, other Federal Agencies]
- Electronic and printed versions (latter to include NRC (visualization) Brochure on CD, along with color graphics and movies)
- Technical (SNL Doug Ammerman, Carlos Lopez, Ruth Weiner)
  - New rail event trees and updated truck event trees
  - RADTRAN 6: includes elevated releases, improved uncertainty analysis, loss-of-shielding and economic analyses
  - Structural and thermal analyses of accidents involving licensed casks (HI STORM and NAC), including both canistered and uncanistered fuel
  - Source term includes rod-to-cask model, contribution of fuel pellet rim to releases
  - More precise structural and thermal analyses providing better estimate of release fractions
  - Updated population data
  - Updated traffic accident data for both truck and rail
- Policy/Sensitive

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- Continued public apprehension, disapproval of SNF shipments by certain states/NGOs
- Support, or supplant, NUREG-0170?
- Retain or curtail comparisons with previous studies? Estimated LCFs (collective dose) or Unit Risk Factors?
- Parallel or sequential Peer/Public reviews?
- Programmatic
  - Completion of analyses
  - Sandia report writing clarity
- Next scheduled SFST interactions:
  - Pre-meeting with management (9/16/09); Presentation to the staff (9/17/09 a.m.); Post-meeting with key reviewers (9/17/09 p.m.)
- Key milestone plan
  - Visualization Brochure nearly complete
  - Thermal analysis of casks 10/31/2009
  - Source term estimation 10/2/2009
  - Structural analysis of casks 10/22/2009
  - Consequence analysis 11/13/2009

First draft NUREG to NRC 12/18/09 NRC comments to SNL 2/12/2010 Peer review (ORNL) 3/8 – 7/20/2010 Publish Draft & Public comment 9/1 – 11/2/2010 Final draft NUREG to NRC 1/11/2011