

July 10, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Gregory Suber, Acting Deputy Director  
Environmental Protection and Performance  
Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection

FROM: Melanie Wong, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**  
Environmental Protection and Performance  
Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JUNE 17, 2014, PUBLIC WEBINAR ON STRATEGIC  
ASSESSMENT OF LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE  
REGULATORY PROGRAM

On June 17, 2014, staff from the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs conducted a public webinar to gather information on an update to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) 2007 Strategic Assessment of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) regulatory program from stakeholders and other interested members of the public.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In 2007, the NRC staff published the Strategic Assessment in SECY-07-0180, "Strategic Assessment of LLRW regulatory program" (ADAMS Accession No. ML071350291), which identified and prioritized the NRC staff's activities for the NRC's LLRW regulatory program. After 7 years, progress has been made in completing several activities identified in the 2007 Strategic Assessment. In addition, the national LLRW program continues to evolve. To set the direction for the NRC's LLRW regulatory program in the next several years, the NRC staff will begin developing an updated Strategic Assessment of the NRC's LLRW program. The new assessment will provide opportunities for stakeholder engagement.

On May 15, 2014, a *Federal Register* (FR) notice was published (79 FR 27772) seeking comments on developments that would affect the LLRW regulatory program in the next several years and actions that the NRC could take to ensure safety, security, and the protection of the environment.

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Mathews George, FSME/DWMEP  
(301) 415-7065

**JUNE 17, 2014 PUBLIC WEBINAR:**

The June 17, 2014, Public Meeting Notice and meeting agenda were made publicly available prior to the meeting and can be found in (ADAMS Accession No. ML14138A001).

Approximately 38 individuals participated in this public meeting, remotely (electronically) via webinar/telephone. Attendance included representatives from the Agreement States, disposal facility operators, and waste generators (including private and governmental) and members of non-governmental organizations (see enclosure). The meeting slides are available in ADAMS (ADAMS Accession No. ML14169A570).

Mr. Gregory Suber opened the workshop, welcomed the attendees and discussed the objectives of the workshop. Ms. Melanie Wong provided the background on the development of the 2007 Strategic Assessment, status of the high priority activities in the assessment, and proposed activities for the updated Strategic Assessment. Mr. Mathews George also discussed the specific questions to be considered as stakeholders develop and provide their comments in developing the revised Strategic Assessment document.

Comments and questions from the discussion on the Strategic Assessment include:

- Concerns were expressed on the release of very low level contaminated radioactive materials. The NRC staff noted that the release of radioactive materials is consistent with its regulations which ensure safety and security.
- Clarifications were requested on which high priority activities from the 2007 Strategic Assessment were put on hold due to resource constraint. It was noted that these resources included both human resources and funding.
- The criteria for evaluating the LLRW regulatory program Strategic Assessment should consider health and safety, as well as security.
- The issues identified, findings and recommendations in reports of the LLRW Forum and the Radiation Protection Source Protection and Security Task Force should be considered in the Strategic Assessment. Financial assurance for sealed sources should be considered. The storage of sealed sources should have a limited time frame.
- Tasks, numbers 1 and 8 in the 2007 Strategic Assessment, Appendix C were recommended to be deleted.
- Expedient completion of the 10 CFR Part 61 proposed rulemaking should be one of the highest priority.

**PATH FORWARD:**

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Gregory Suber concluded the webinar. He thanked the participants of the webinar. He noted that written comments could be submitted via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and the comment period would close on July 14, 2014. Comments from the March 7, 2014, workshop in Phoenix Arizona will be reviewed along with comments from

this webinar, as well as the *Federal Register* Notice in updating the Strategic Assessment. Due to technical difficulties, the webinar began 20 minutes later and therefore, the NRC staff plans to have an additional webinar in early July. A draft updated Strategic Assessment is expected to be published in 2015 for comments.

**DOCUMENTATION:**

All project documentation (meeting agenda, presentation slides, meeting summary, and other related documents) can be found on the following NRC webpage:  
<http://www.nrc.gov/waste/llw-disposal/llw-pa/llw-strategic-assessment.html>.

Enclosure:  
Attendance List

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Enclosure:  
 Attendance List

**ML14169A554**

<b>OFC</b>	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
<b>NAME</b>	MWong	MGeorge	TMoon	GSuber	MWong
<b>DATE</b>	06/18/14	06/19/14	06/17/14	07/10/14	07/10/14

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

WEBINAR ATTENDEES (Public):

NAME	AFFILIATION
Diane D'Arrigo	NIRS
Joseph Rustick	Vanderbilt University
Leigh Ing	Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission
Brian Hearty	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Brad Broussard	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Thomas Magette	PWC
Dan Schultheisz	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Gwyn Galloway	Utah Department of Environmental Quality
David Haught	U.S. Department of Energy
Ted Buckner	Southeast Compact
Perry Robinson	Urenco U.S.A
Steven Harrison	Virginia Department of Health
Michel Lee	Council on Intelligent Energy & Conservation Policy
Scott Kirk	Waste Control Specialists LLC
Shahram Ghasemian	Office of U.S. Senator Tom Carper
Daniel Shrum	EnergySolutions
Lee Thomasson	Dominion
Hans Weger	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Jimmy Alldredge	Luminant
Rich Janati	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
John Greeves	Talisman International, LLC
Jim Lieberman	Talisman International, LLC
Sam Miller	Westinghouse
Oleg Povetko	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Kelly Crooks	U.S. Army
Larainne Koehler	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Earl Fordham	Washington Department of Health
Michael Garner	Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management/State of Washington

**NOTE: There were additional attendees via the bridge line that did not login to the webinar. Staff has no means to track bridge line callers.**

Enclosure

## NRC ATTENDEES:

NAME	TITLE
Gregory Suber	Branch Chief
Jim Kennedy	Senior Project Manager
Steve Dembek	Senior Project Manager
Melanie Wong	Senior Project Manager
Don Lowman	Project Manager
Mathews George	Project Manager
Maurice Heath	Project Manager
Terrence Brimfield	Project Manager
Tammy Bloomer	Technical Assistant for Commissioner Ostendorff
Janelle Jessie	Technical Assistant for Commissioner Magwood