

DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING RULE: CURRENT ACTIVITIES

2014 Fuel Cycle Information Exchange June 11, 2014

Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager Reactor Decommissioning Branch Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs E-mail: marlayna.vaaler@nrc.gov Work: 301.415.3178



Takeaways For Today

- The key word in the DPR is PLANNING
- NRC guidance is available to help with implementation and other questions

Prompt remediation has not disappeared



Fundamentals of Decommissioning Planning

- Have a plan
- Pay attention
- Make sure you have the money
- Evaluate often



A Brief History of the DPR





The Decommissioning Planning Rule

- Effective on December 17, 2013
- Minimization of contamination
 - Adds language to §20.1406(c)
- Site surveys and monitoring
 - Modifies §20.1501(a) regarding subsurface surveys
- Retain records of residual radioactivity and other surveys
 - Adds section §20.1501(b)
- Update financial assurances accordingly



DPR Guidance Documents

- Regulatory Guide (RG) 4.21, "Minimization of Contamination and Radioactive Waste Generation: Life-Cycle Planning" (June 2008)
- RG 4.22, "Decommissioning Planning During Operations" (December 2012)
- NUREG-1757, "Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance," Volume 3, "Financial Assurance, Recordkeeping, and Timeliness," Rev. 1 (February 2012)



Ongoing Activities from the DPR

- Commission Direction: Create a technical basis for a potential rule on prompt remediation that would
 - Address remediation during operations
 - Incorporate feedback gained from stakeholder involvement
 - Define criteria that would require prompt remediation
- Technical basis explores alternatives to prompt remediation
 - NRC staff prefers the "analyze before action" approach
- New Commission Direction: Allow a vote on whether or not to proceed with rulemaking or collect additional data before deciding
 - Collecting two years of additional data was selected



Prompt Remediation: Next Steps

- Collect data on unplanned releases
 - Routine licensee communications and event reports
- Evaluate the information to assess licensee response
 - Justification for delayed or partial remediation
 - Provisions for additional remediation funding
- Make a rulemaking recommendation to the Commission
 - Go, don't go, or go for some licensees or license types



BACKUP SLIDES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING RULE AND PROMPT REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES

2014 Fuel Cycle Information Exchange

CONTACT:

Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager Reactor Decommissioning Branch

Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs

E-mail: marlayna.vaaler@nrc.gov Work: 301.415.3178



FUNDAMENTALS OF DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING

- APPLIES DURING THE ENTIRE LIFE CYCLE OF THE FACILITY
- MONITOR, SURVEY, AND SAMPLE TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY PRESENT AT THE SITE
- ESTIMATE THE COST TO REMEDIATE THE AFFECTED AREA(S)
- THEN FITHER:
 - REMEDIATE SOON TO MINIMIZE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSURANCE
 - INCREASE FINANCIAL ASSURANCE PER THE REGULATIONS TO REMEDIATE LATER



BACKGROUND

- LICENSE TERMINATION RULE ISSUED IN 1997
- THE COMMISSION DIRECTED AN IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW IN 2000
- SECY-03-0069 RECOMMENDED RULEMAKING IN TWO AREAS:
 - FINANCIAL ASSURANCE
 - IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAMINATION
- THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR RULEMAKING
- PRELIMINARY RULE INCLUDED REMEDIATING "SERIOUS CONDITIONS" PROMPTLY



DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING RULE

- EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 17, 2013
- MINIMIZE INTRODUCTION OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY
- RULE ADDS TO §20.1406(c)
 - OPERATE IN A WAY TO MINIMIZE INTRODUCTION OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT
 - PROCEDURES TO REDUCE LEAKS AND SPILLS
 - SURVEILLANCE TO FIND THEM PROMPTLY
 - FACILITATE DECOMMISSIONING
 - REDUCE WASTE GENERATION AS PRACTICAL
 - DISPOSE OF WASTE EARLY WHEN PRACTICAL



DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING RULE

- SURVEY THE SITE, INCLUDING SUBSURFACE AREAS
- RULE MODIFIES §20.1501(a) REGARDING SURVEYS
 - INCLUDES SUBSURFACE
- RETAIN RECORDS OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY AND ASSOCIATED SURVEYS
- RULE ADDS NEW §20.1501(b)
 - RECORD RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY IN RECORDS IMPORTANT TO DECOMMISSIONING
 - CONSIDER KEEPING MORE RECORDS FOR HISTORIC SITE ASSESSMENT
- UPDATE FINANCIAL ASSURANCES ACCORDINGLY



GUIDANCE

- PREGULATORY GUIDE (RG) 4.22, "DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING DURING OPERATIONS" (December 2012)
 - MINIMIZE NEW CONTAMINATION AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE GENERATION
 - CONDUCT APPROPRIATE RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS OF THE SITE
 - RETAIN RECORDS OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY
 - PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO COMPLETE DECOMMISSIONING
- NUREG-1757, VOLUME 3, REVISION 1 (February 2012)
 - CREATE A PLAN TO PAY FOR ACTUAL REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES
 - CHANGES TO FINANCIAL REPORTING AND INSTRUMENTS



RG 4.22: CONDUCT SURVEYS

- RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS PER § 20.1501(a)
 - SURFACE SURVEYS
 - ACCESSIBLE AREAS
 - NOT READILY ACCESSIBLE AREAS
 - SUBSURFACE EXAMINATION IS AN EXPLICIT REQUIREMENT
 - SURVEY NEAR POTENTIAL SOURCES
 - SURVEY IN GROUNDWATER FLOW PATHS (DOWNSTREAM)
- NEI 07-07, "INDUSTRY GROUNDWATER PROTECTION INITIATIVE,"
 OBJECTIVES MEET THE INTENT OF THE RULE



RG 4.22: RETAIN RECORDS

- RECORDKEEPING PER § 20.1501(b)
 - RETAIN RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS WITH "RECORDS IMPORTANT TO DECOMMISSIONING"
 - SIGNIFICANT RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY IS THAT WHICH REQUIRES REMEDIATION AT TIME OF LICENSE TERMINATION FOR UNRESTRICTED RELEASE
 - RECORDS BECOME THE BASES FOR SITE CHARACTERIZATION SURVEYS AT LICENSE TERMINATION



RG 4.22: MAINTAIN FINANCES

- UPDATE AND ADJUST FINANCIAL ASSURANCE, AS APPROPRIATE
 - DETAILS IN RG 1.159 & NUREG 1757, VOLUME 3, REVISION 1
 - ESTIMATE COST TO REMEDIATE THE SITE TO REQUIRED LEVEL
 - CREATE A SUITABLE REMEDIATION SCHEDULE
 - ARRANGE FOR SUFFICIENT FUNDS PER THE APPLICABLE FINANCIAL ASSURANCE REGULATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS



SUBSEQUENT DPR ACTIVITIES

- IN 2007, THE COMMISSION ISSUED A STAFF REQUIREMENTS MEMO FOR THE DPR, INSTRUCTING STAFF TO CONTINUE TO EXPLORE A TECHNICAL AND REGULATORY BASIS FOR A PROPOSED NEW / ADDITIONAL RULE TO MANDATE PROMPT REMEDIATION
- THIS TECHNICAL / REGULATORY BASIS WOULD:
 - ADDRESS REMEDIATION DURING OPERATIONS
 - SEEK PUBLIC COMMENT AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT
 - DEFINE CRITERIA TO REQUIRE ACTION (I.E., PROMPT REMEDIATION)



ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- REGULATION ON RADIOLOGICAL DOSE OR CONCENTRATION
 - START REMEDIATION IF <u>DOSE</u> CONTAMINATION EXCEEDS §20.1201, 1301, OR 1403
 - DO ANALYSES IF <u>CONCENTRATIONS</u> EXCEED TABLE 2 OF APPENDIX B
 TO PART 20, OR 2X SOIL SCREENING VALUES
- REQUIRE ALARA ANALYSIS AND REMEDIATION SCHEDULE
- ISSUE A POLICY STATEMENT ON AMENDING LICENSES VIA SITE-SPECIFIC LICENSE CONDITIONS, OR BY ORDER IF NECESSARY
- ISSUE ENHANCED GUIDANCE
- CONTINUE CURRENT CASE-BY-CASE APPROACH
- NO ACTION
- PREFERRED STAFF ALTERNATIVE (2012): ANALYZE AND PLAN



RESPONSE TO COMMISSION

- RULEMAKING WAS BUDGETED FOR FY 2013; HOWEVER:
 - GROUNDWATER TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS IN 2011 LED TO THE STAFF CONTINUING TO DEVELOP A TECHNICAL BASIS
 - IN 2012, THE COMMISSION REQUESTED A NOTATION VOTE ON THE PROS AND CONS OF A PROMPT REMEDIATION RULEMAKING
 - THIS EVALUATION INCLUDED STAKEHOLDER INPUT AND A BACKFIT DISCUSSION RELATED TO THE TECHNICAL / REGULATORY BASIS
- THIS RESULTED IN SECY-13-0108, WHICH IDENTIFIED THREE OPTIONS:
 - PROCEED WITH RULEMAKING
 - DO NOT PROCEED WITH RULEMAKING
 - COLLECT TWO YEARS OF DATA, THEN DECIDE
- SRM-SECY-13-0108 APPROVED OPTION 3



PLANNED ACTIONS

- COLLECT AND EVALUATE LICENSEE DATA ON RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY
 - WHERE DID LICENSEES LOOK FOR RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY DURING SURVEY ACTIVITIES AND WHAT DID THEY FIND?
 - WHAT DID THEY DO ABOUT IT?
 - WHAT CHANGES DID THEY MAKE TO THEIR DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING PLANS?
- HOLD ANOTHER PUBLIC MEETING (Probably Early 2016)
 - PRESENT NRC RESULTS
 - SOLICIT STAKEHOLDER INPUT
- RECOMMENDATION TO COMMISSION ON ADDITIONAL RULEMAKING
 - LATE 2016



RECOMMENDATION DATA SOURCES

- INSPECTION REPORTS
 - NORMAL PERIODIC INSPECTIONS
 - TI 2600-017 IMPLEMENTING THE DPR
 - ENSURE THAT RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT ARE PROMPTLY IDENTIFIED AND CHARACTERIZED
 - LICENSEES RECORD RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY DATA
 - TI 2515/173 IMPLEMENTING NEI 07-07
 - RECORDS IMPORTANT TO DECOMMISSIONING
- LICENSEE REPORTS
 - §20.2203
 - §50.72
- ANNUAL EFFLUENT REPORTS



DATA EVALUATION

- NUMBER OF UNPLANNED RADIOLOGICAL RELEASES
 - SOURCE(S) OF RELEASE
 - LOCATION OF RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVITY
- LICENSEE RESPONSE
 - PROMPT CLEANUP
 - PLANS FOR DELAYED MITIGATION
 - ACTIVE REMEDIATION
 - DEMONSTRATE COMPLIANCE WITH RELEASE CRITERIA AT TIME OF LICENSE TERMINATION
 - APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS TO DECOMMISSIONING FUNDING



POSSIBLE CONCLUSIONS

- NO ADDITIONAL RULEMAKING IS NEEDED; CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION
 OF THE DPR PROTECTS PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
- ADDITIONAL RULEMAKING IS NEEDED TO ENSURE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFFTY
- ADDITIONAL ACTIONS ARE NEEDED FOR SPECIFIC LICENSEES OR LICENSE TYPES, INCLUDING:
 - CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER
 - AMENDMENT TO LICENSE (BY ORDER, IF NEEDED)
 - AMEND CERTAIN SPECIFIC LICENSE CONDITIONS