



Panel 4: Technical Issues Biographies

Bob Einziger

Dr. Einziger is a Senior Materials Scientist in the Renewals and Materials Branch of the Division of Spent Fuel Management.

Prior to joining the NRC he was manager of the Materials Performance Department in the Chemical Technology Division at Argonne, and manager of the Materials Application Section at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Dr. Einziger has worked on fuel and cladding issues related to spent fuel storage and transportation since 1979. He is a Fellow of the ANS, and recipient of the ANS Mishma Award for contributions to nuclear fuels development and ASTM Sam Tour award for corrosion studies.

Dr. Einziger has a B.S. in Physics from Georgia Tech and a Ph.D. in Solid State Physics from Rensselaer.

John Kessler

John received his BS and MS in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1979 and 1981, respectively; John received his Ph.D. in Hydrogeology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1993.

John has been working on issues related to storage, transportation, and disposal of spent fuel and high-level radioactive waste since 1979. His first job was at Oak Ridge National Laboratory working on solidification of defense wastes in cement. John next move to Nutech Engineers – first working on low-level waste, on-site interim storage, and later on the first NUHOMS-24 design. Later, John contributed to the Sierra Nuclear VSC-17 and VSC-24 designs.

John is currently the manager of the High-Level Waste and Spent Fuel Management Program at the Electric Power Research Institute. John has led EPRI's effort in developing a probabilistic approach to understanding the overall impact of disposing of spent fuel in the candidate repository at Yucca Mountain. On the spent fuel storage side, John managed a jointly funded project to investigate aging issues for the purposes

of Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations license extension. Part of this work involves assessing what components of the spent fuel storage system require attention – a situation in which applying risk-informed judgment is important.

Jorge Solís

Jorge Solís is a senior thermal engineer in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In his role he is responsible for performing technical reviews of spent fuel storage and transportation casks and for developing technical review guidance and CFD best practice guidelines. He has over 13 years of experience performing thermal analysis of spent fuel storage and transportation casks and spent fuel dry storage facilities, and more than 20 years of engineering experience which includes experience in nuclear engineering (nuclear fuel management and thermal hydraulic design, and transient and accident analysis of commercial nuclear power plants) and review of radioactive materials and spent fuel storage and transportation packages.

Veronica Wilson

Veronica Wilson has a B.S. in Nuclear Engineering from the University of New Mexico. She has been a Nuclear Engineer in the Criticality, Shielding and Risk Assessment Branch, Division of Spent Fuel Management since 2007. She performs criticality and shielding reviews for both Part 71 and 72 applications. Prior to working in the Division of Spent Fuel Management, Ms. Wilson worked in the Reactor Systems Branch in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation reviewing licensing applications for PWR, BWR, and advanced reactor systems since joining the U.S. NRC in 2002.

Kris Cummings

Kris Cummings is a Senior Project Manager for Used Fuel Programs at the Nuclear Energy Institute. Prior to joining NEL, Kristopher's experience includes four years in the Westinghouse Fuels Division and ten years at Holtec International. He holds Bachelor's degrees in Physics and Mathematics for the University of Washington and a Master's degree in Nuclear Engineering for the University of Wisconsin. His technical focus has been in the areas of nuclear analyses of used fuel pools, storage casks and transportation casks and strategies for more effective used fuel management.