

RIC 2003

SPENT FUEL STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, AND DISPOSAL

SESSION T-4

STATUS OF NRC'S REGULATORY PROGRAM FOR THE PROPOSED GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY

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WHAT IS NRC'S ROLE AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN?

- Set regulations that are consistent with the Environmental Protection Agency standards for Yucca Mountain
- Public pre-licensing interactions
- Decide whether to permit construction and, later, whether to license operation

SUPPORT FROM THE CENTER FOR NUCLEAR WASTE REGULATORY ANALYSES

- Mission to support NRC high-level waste program
- Nationally recognized expertise
- Field studies, laboratory research, computer modeling

CURRENT NRC ACTIVITIES

- Monitor DOE program and conduct public meetings with DOE to address regulatory issues
- Finalize licensing guidance
- Ensure staff readiness for license application review and inspections
- Ongoing dialogue with public

NRC STAFF SAFETY REVIEW

- Review license application
- Request more information, if needed
- Document results in a Safety Evaluation Report

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF NRC's REVIEW

- Deny the Application
- Grant a License to construct with conditions
- Grant a License to construct



SUMMARY

- NRC will review all information objectively based on the facts, make transparent decisions, and maintain an open process
- Formal hearing will follow well-established regulations to ensure an open, objective decision