



Assuring Safety and Security for an Evolving Nuclear Fuel Cycle

NRC Regulatory Information Conference
Strategic Considerations for Managing the Back End of the Fuel Cycle
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Background



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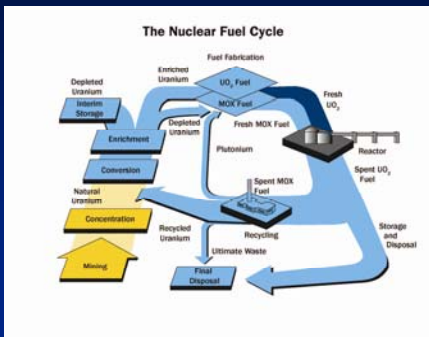
NRC's role in an evolving policy environment

- Maintain safety and security as changes occur in the national strategy
- Need to:
 - Leverage limited resources and maintain assets
 - Avoid assumptions about specific directions or outcomes
- Continue to engage stakeholders and the international community

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Integrated spent fuel regulatory activities



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Waste Confidence

- Provides basis for generic finding that spent fuel can be stored safely and without significant environmental impacts associated with storage for at least 60 years beyond licensed life of any reactor
- Planning for longer-term rulemaking and EIS to assess the environmental impacts and safety of spent fuel storage for more than 60 years following termination of a reactor license.
- Leveraging currently planned work for regulating extended spent fuel storage and transportation

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Extended spent fuel storage and transportation



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Reprocessing

- Progress on developing regulatory framework for reprocessing
- Examining regulatory approaches to accommodate newer reprocessing technologies
- Staff is currently preparing a regulatory basis document to address identified gaps and an environmental topical report

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Geologic disposal of spent fuel and high level waste

- 10 CFR 63 is focused on disposal at Yucca Mountain, Nevada
- Disposal at other locations will involve updating or replacing generic geologic disposal regulations (10 CFR 60)
- Identifying and evaluating potential regulatory and technical issues

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Summary

- Integrated approach to regulating spent fuel management and disposition
- Continue to ensure that nuclear materials are safely and securely managed
- Support regulatory framework development with sound technical bases
- Maintain responsiveness as national policy evolves

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