



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201
703-235-4473

AGENDA

Spring 2023 Board Meeting *March 28, 2023*

Florida Hotel and Conference Center
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, Florida 32809

<https://preconvirtual.com/nwtrb-gov-03-28-2023/>

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 (Salons 2 & 3)

8:00 a.m. EDT **Call to Order and Introductory Statement**
Nathan Siu, Board Chair

8:15 a.m. EDT **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Integrated Waste Management (IWM) Overview**
Erica Bickford, DOE, Office of Nuclear Energy (DOE-NE)

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- What are the major accomplishments, key updates, and future work plans for the following program activities:
 - Package Performance Study
 - NGSAM (Next Generation Systems Analysis Model) and PASO (Performance Assessment of Strategy Options) updates
 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act Section 180(c) Ad Hoc Working Group
 - Tribal coordination efforts (transportation and consent-based)
- For the various software and systems analysis tools (NGSAM, PASO, etc.), is there any comprehensive documentation supporting integration and transportation planning? Specifically, how will the tools be used and how are lessons learned and information obtained from infrastructure evaluations and site de-inventory assessments incorporated into system tools and analyses?
- What is the status of the consent-based siting (CBS) process and the lessons learned to date? What kinds of assumptions about the CBS process are integrated into DOE's systems analysis tools such as, PASO?
- How will DOE enhance public engagement and understanding of the technical issues of rail transportation through the Package Performance Study?
- What is the level of coordination between DOE, States, and Tribal governments on important remaining issues related to DOE's removal of SNF from commercial power plant sites?

9:05 a.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

9:25 a.m. EDT **DOE’s Strategy for Management and Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) and High-Level Radioactive Waste (HLW), Including the Use of a Consent-Based Siting Process**

Kathryn Huff, Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, DOE

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- Will the DOE-NE strategy for nuclear waste management be documented in the new integrated waste management system program plan that is due later this year? Can you tell us about some of the strategic highlights from that program plan?
- When do you expect the number of Federal facilities for storage and disposal to be determined and what are the factors that will drive this decision?

9:35 a.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

9:45 a.m. EDT **Break**

10:00 a.m. EDT **Nuclear Power Plant Infrastructure Evaluations for Removing Commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel**

Gerry Jackson, DOE-NE

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- What technical aspects of transportability of SNF and HLW are evaluated in a typical site evaluation? How do they differ from site to site, and why?
- What is the level of coordination between stakeholders (public, railroads, state regional groups, and Tribes) during the site evaluation process? And for emergency preparedness and response?
- Which sites have been evaluated and what are your plans and schedules for the next evaluations?
- What lessons have DOE learned from site evaluations that can benefit other operators of waste storage sites and can inform future DOE evaluations and system tool updates and analyses?

10:40 a.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

11:00 a.m. EDT **DOE’s Site-Specific De-Inventory Reports**

Sara Hogan, DOE-NE

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- What are the main purposes and goals of the site-specific de-inventory reports? What process is used to gather information for the report?
- What are the contents of a site-specific de-inventory report? What are the main technical aspects pertaining to site de-inventory? How does the reporting differ from site to site, and why? What costs are included and what costs are excluded in determining budget and spending plans for each site?
- How will the information in a site-specific de-inventory report be used for future transportation planning and informing future DOE de-inventory reports and system tool updates and analyses?
- What are the lessons learned from preparation of DOE’s site-specific de-inventory reports that can benefit other operators of waste storage?

11:30 a.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

11:50 a.m. EDT Lunch

12:50 p.m. EDT Panel: Tribal Perspectives on Transportation and Consent-Based Siting

Panelists: Richard Arnold (Consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations, Chairman Pahrump Paiute Tribe); Nelson Andrews (Tribal Councilman, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe); Heather Westra (Staff consultant to Prairie Island Indian Community)

Moderator: Bret Leslie, Board staff

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- How do various working groups, forums, and committees (National Transportation Stakeholders' Forum, Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group, TRMTC) help to engage Tribal governments on DOE activities related to transportation of SNF?
- What is the current level of coordination and involvement between Tribal representatives and DOE on the following activities:
 - Transportation issues that need to be addressed for removing SNF from nuclear power plant sites
 - Recent consent-based siting activities
 - Emergency preparedness and response
 - Educational opportunities
- From Tribal governmental perspectives, what are perceived as the key challenges related to DOE's broad range of activities related to transportation of SNF from commercial power plant sites?
- What are the lessons learned so far from engaging with DOE on the above technical issues? And how could this engagement be improved?

1:50 p.m. EDT Laboratory Analysis of the Cooling Time Requirements and Criticality Safety Requirements Prior to Transporting Commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel Canisters

Kaushik Banerjee, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- What are the major accomplishments and key status updates for the DOE-sponsored analyses of cooling time, dose rates, and criticality safety of commercial SNF canisters?
- How closely is DOE working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and nuclear utilities to address remaining issues with storage and transportability of casks and canisters from nuclear power plant sites?
- How does DOE plan to address remaining technical and licensing requirements for transportation of SNF and HLW from shutdown sites?
 - Please explain the effort to produce a list of the earliest "ship by" dates for SNF canisters that are in dry storage and a list of SNF canisters that cannot be shipped because they cannot meet the requirements of the relevant certificate of compliance for transportation?

2:20 p.m. EDT Questions, discussion

2:40 p.m. EDT Break

2:55 p.m. EDT Atlas and Fortis Railcar Project Updates

Erica Bickford, DOE-NE

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- Please provide updates on the DOE railcar development program.
- What are the remaining issues that need to be addressed before final approval for use of the Atlas and Fortis railcars, respectively?

3:25 p.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

3:45 p.m. EDT U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Preparations for Potential Large-Scale Commercial Shipments of Spent Nuclear Fuel
David Pstrak, NRC

TOPICS/QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- What are the main challenges identified in the NRC regulatory readiness report on transporting SNF? What actions are recommended to address those challenges?
- What is the level of NRC's interaction with DOE and utilities on addressing remaining issues with storage and transportability of SNF casks and canisters, which are already loaded, from nuclear power plant sites?
- When and how does NRC identify which loaded casks are incompatible with their associated transportation certificate of compliance? What options are available to resolve the mismatches?

4:25 p.m. EDT *Questions, discussion*

4:45 p.m. EDT Public Comments

5:00 p.m. EDT Adjourn Public Meeting