Update on WCS’ Plans for Consolidated Interim Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel
WCS current facilities
Clive Facility
(Previous Industry Standard for Class A)
Barnwell Facility
(Previous Industry Standard for Class B/C)
WCS Compact Facility
(New Industry Standard)
Compact Waste Facility
Modular Concrete Canisters

- 80” D x 110” H
  - Cylindrical MCC

- MCC Opened for Waste Placement

- 114” L x 92” W x 110” H
  - Rectangular MCC
First Large Components

- Completed in July ‘14
- Barge to Houston
- Rail to WCS
LANL Shipments to WCS

• Shipments to WCS were suspended when breached drum was discovered to have originated from LANL

• WCS received 40% of planned shipments before stoppage
  – 39 shipments containing 599 standard waste boxes (SWBs) between April 1 and May 1, 2014
  – Includes 73 SWBs of nitrate salts bearing waste from same waste stream as breached drum at WIPP
TRU Storage in MCC
• WCS submitted a Petition for Rulemaking that would provide a disposal pathways for GTCC and GTCC-like LLW on July 21, 2014.

• Provides a disposal pathway for GTCC and GTCC-like LLW stranded for decades.

• Recognizes that an Agreement State may be authorized to regulate disposal of non-commercial GTCC-like LLW.
Location of ISFSI

Photo represents less than 20% of WCS Site.

Phase One
Potential Site of Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI)

Phase Two
Land set aside for potential future ISFSI expansion

14,000 Acre Texas Site
1,340 Permitted Acres
Project Scope

• Environmental impacts will be analyzed with storage of 40,000 MTHM for 40 years.
  – 8 separate phases; storage of up to 5,000 MTHM in each phase.
• License includes three NUHOMS storage systems, which cover three decommissioned and seven operating sites.
  – Discussions underway to include other systems for other sites
• Storage of used fuel from up to 10 decommissioned nuclear power plants (9 locations) will fit in Phase 1.
• License for 40 years with renewals of up to 20 years.
• Licensing with NRC has already started.
• Discussions with DOE have started on how this could impact the DOE strategy for used nuclear fuel.
Timeline

• February 2015 – filed the notice of intent
• Currently – meetings with interested parties, legislative members, NRC pre-application meetings
• April 2016 – file license application
• June 2019 – NRC issues license application
  – Assumes a three year review period
• September 2019 – Construction begins
• December 2020 – Operations could begin
License Application

• WCS has the lead role in preparing the license application, with support from AREVA.
• First public pre-application meeting is in June.
• License application for Private Fuel Storage that was approved by the NRC provides a template.
• Safety Analysis Report will be prepared for AREVA’S NUHOMS system.
  – Additional systems to be added as license amendments.
Community Support

• WCS initiated discussions with Andrews County, Texas for support to site a Centralized Interim Storage Facility in the County.

• WCS underscored we were proceeding with the project only with the support of the local community.

• Andrews County resolution passed unanimously on January 20, 2015.
No Impact on Yucca

- The WCS facility has no real impact on the debate about a permanent repository.
  - Industry has generated 71,780 mtu/date and at a rate of 2,000-3,000 mtu/year, there is still need a permanent solution

- Allows transportation system to be developed and tested.
WCS is Budget Friendly

• No up-front federal expenditures for site selection, characterization and licensing.
• Consolidation of multiple sites into one will save licensing and security costs.
• Federal expenditures for transportation and storage will result in progress instead of studies.
• Opportunity to reduce payments from the unappropriated Judgment fund.
  – Federal government estimates their liability to be almost $13 billion by 2020.
What Does WCS Need?

• WCS is willing to start the process with no federal funding, but needs to be able to be paid for storage along with DOE taking title to the waste for consolidated interim storage.
  – Legislation or policy clarification

• Industry support for using the waste fund to pay for interim storage.

• DOE to make significant progress in transportation of used fuel so we have something to store in December 2020.
Questions?

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