

Five Waste Confidence Findings

2010 Waste Confidence Update*

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Finding 1 (reaffirmed) – The Commission finds reasonable assurance that safe disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel in a mined geologic repository is technically feasible.

Finding 2 (updated) – The Commission finds reasonable assurance that sufficient mined geologic repository capacity will be available to dispose of the commercial high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel generated in any reactor when necessary.

Finding 3 (reaffirmed) – The Commission finds reasonable assurance that high-level waste and spent fuel will be managed in a safe manner until sufficient repository capacity is available to assure the safe disposal of all high-level waste and spent fuel.

Finding 4 (updated) – The Commission finds reasonable assurance that, if necessary, spent fuel generated in any reactor can be stored safely and without significant environmental impacts for at least 60 years beyond the licensed life of operation (which may include the term of a revised or renewed license) of that reactor in a combination of storage in its spent fuel storage basin and either onsite or offsite independent spent fuel storage installations.

Finding 5 (reaffirmed) – The Commission finds reasonable assurance that safe, independent onsite spent fuel storage or offsite spent fuel storage will be made available if such storage capacity is needed.

*The Commission published the 2010 Waste Confidence Update in the Federal Register on December 23, 2010 (75 FR 81302-81037).