Industry Perspective on Greater Than Class C Waste (GTCC) Disposal

Janet R. Schlueter

Senior Director, Radiation and Materials Safety USNRC Commission Meeting August 13, 2015 • Rockville, MD



Overview

- Industry-Generated GTCC Waste is Safely and Securely Managed Today
- Industry Supports Additional Efforts to Facilitate Safe and Secure Permanent Disposal Options for GTCC and TRU Wastes
- Both Staff Options (1 and 2) Provide Potential Path Forward
- Option 2 Offers Unique Benefits and Challenges



Industry Generators of GTCC

- Industry Generates Various Forms and Minimal Volumes of GTCC Waste at Licensed Facilities Such as:
 - Nuclear Power Plants
 - Fuel Cycle Facilities (Fuel Research)
 - Sealed Sources
 - Broad Scope Medical and Research Facilities
 - Large Irradiators



GTCC is Adequately Managed

 Industry Currently Manages GTCC Wastes in a Manner that Adequately Protects Public Health and Safety and Environment

 Industry Recognizes the Need to Address Important Jurisdiction Question Raised by the State of Texas



Related Issues

 Issuance of DOE's Final Environmental Impact Study and its Preferred Approach to GTCC Waste Management

 Revision of NRC's Part 61 Waste Classification Tables and Affect on Future Categorization of GTCC Waste



Options Provided in SECY-15-0094

- Both Options 1 and 2 Would Permit Consideration of WCS Facility as Disposal Option for GTCC Wastes
 - NEI Supports Consideration of WCS Facility
- Option 2 Would Permit Texas to License and Regulate Disposal of GTCC Waste at WCS with NRC in Oversight Role



SECY Options (continued)

- Provided Statutory and Regulatory Implications are Addressed, Option 2 Provides Additional Advantages, Including:
 - Experienced Agreement State Regulator
 - Continued NRC Oversight of Texas Program via Agreement State Program
 - Most Efficient and Least Resource Intensive Regulatory Option



Summary

- Industry-Generated GTCC Waste is Safely and Securely Managed Today
- Industry Supports Additional Efforts to Facilitate Safe and Secure Permanent Disposal Options for GTCC and TRU Wastes
- Industry Suggests Public Workshop with Affected Stakeholders for Transparency

