



Briefing on NMSS Programs, Performance, and Plans – Waste Safety

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Agenda

- **Overview**
- **Major program accomplishments**
- **Challenges**
- **Strategies for success**
- **Risk-informing strategies**
- **Near-term and future policy issues**
- **Summary**

Overview

- **Diverse waste safety program poses unique challenges**
- **Subject to changing landscape**
- **Management/staff commitment to continuous improvement meets these challenges**

Major Program Accomplishments

- **Achieved all FY 2004 strategic and performance goals**
 - **Safety and security**
 - **Public confidence/Openness**
 - **Effectiveness/EERT**
 - **Management**
- **On track to achieve FY 2005 goals**

Disposal

- **Improved public availability of NRC's HLW documents through the LSN**
- **Enhanced openness in NRC waste disposal activities**
- **Independently evaluated technical quality of DOE documents**

Storage and Transportation

- **Completed PFS hearings**
- **Enabled industry to store spent fuel through timely regulatory actions**
- **Collaborated with DOT to influence international transportation standards and to promulgate conforming US regulations**

Environmental

- **Maintained high quality and timeliness of EISs**
 - **Completed LES draft EIS ahead of schedule**
 - **Completed Foster Wheeler final EIS ahead of schedule and under budget**
 - **Completed MOX final EIS**
- **Influenced international activities**

Decommissioning

- **Achieved greater flexibility in implementing the License Termination Rule**
- **Focused and streamlined the decommissioning program**
- **Increased the rate of site terminations**

Challenges

- **Emerging work**
 - Unique
 - Technically complex
- **Balance between openness and security**
- **Competing for specialized critical skills; sustaining staff capabilities**
- **Maintaining up-to-date infrastructure**

Trends in Activities

FY 2005 – FY 2007

CASE LOAD TRENDS

Waste Disposal



Transportation
and Storage



Environmental



Decommissioning



OTHER DRIVERS

Technical Complexity
Changing Environment
Coordination
Critical Skills
New approach to work

Caseload x Other Drivers = Resources

Strategies for Success

- **Commitment to continuous improvement by increasing organizational capacity**
 - **Eliminate activities that do not contribute substantially to our goals**
 - **Streamline and improve processes and procedures**
 - **Improve communication**
 - **Maintain a flexible infrastructure**
 - **Recruit and retain critical skills**
 - **Be aware of what the future may bring**

Risk-Informing Strategies

- **Increased effectiveness and efficiency by focusing on areas commensurate with their importance to safety**
- **Eliminated or reduced unnecessary work**

Integration of Activities

- **Integrated management teams**
- **Cross-cutting training**
- **Cross-utilization of staff**
- **Coordination with Offices**
- **Transferred knowledge of hearing process and stakeholder involvement**

Near-Term Commission Interactions

- **Disposal**
- **Storage and Transportation**
- **Environmental**
- **Decommissioning**

Future Policy Issues

- **Spent fuel storage and transportation of evolving fuel designs**
- **NRC role in national LLW issues**
- **Implications of decommissioning for new reactor designs**

Summary

- **Challenges will continue**
- **Continuous improvement essential to address these challenges**
- **NMSS management and staff are committed to achieving NRC's strategic and performance goals in the most effective and efficient way we can**