Department of Health and Human Services
Maine People Living Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives
Paul R. LePage, Governor
Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

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June 25, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Justin Alfond, President of the Senate, and Representative Mark Eves, Speaker of the House

FROM: Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner
Department of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: State Nuclear Safety Inspector's March, 2013 Monthly Report to the Legislature on the Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility in Wiscasset, Maine

Legislation enacted in the spring of 2008 requires the State Nuclear Safety Inspector to provide monthly reports to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Maine Yankee. The report focuses on activities at the site and includes highlights of the national debate on storing and disposing the used nuclear fuel. For your convenience highlights of local and national events are captured in the executive summary to the report.

The enclosed report provides the information required under Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated §666, as enacted under Public Law, Chapter 539, in the second regular session of the 123rd Legislature.

Should you have questions about its content, please feel free to contact Patrick J. Dostie, State Nuclear Safety Inspector, at 287-6721.

MCM/klv

Enclosure

cc: Mark Lombard, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Monica Orendi, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I
James Connell, Site Vice President, Maine Yankee
Holly Lusk, Senior Health Policy Advisor
Sheila Pinette, DO, Director, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Patricia W. Aho, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Richard Davies, Maine Public Advocate
Lieutenant Anna Love, Special Services Unit, Maine State Police
Nancy Beardsley, Director, Division of Environmental Health
Jay Hyland, PE, Manager, Radiation Control Program

State Nuclear Safety Inspector Office
Maine CDC – DHHS

March 2013 Monthly Report to the Legislature

Executive Summary

As part of the State's long standing oversight of Maine Yankee's nuclear activities, legislation was enacted in the second regular session of the 123rd and signed by Governor John Baldacci requiring that the State Nuclear Safety Inspector prepare a monthly report on the oversight activities performed at the Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) facility located in Wiscasset, Maine.

The report covers activities at the storage facility, including the State's on-going environmental radiation surveillance and the national debate over the licensing and construction of a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel. The report's highlights assist readers to focus on the significant activities that took place during the month, both locally and nationally.

LOCAL:

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) forwarded a letter to Maine Yankee indicating the applicability of the NRC's revised emergency preparedness regulations as they pertain to stand alone ISFSI's or plants in decommissioning status. The new Emergency Plan Rule went into effect on December 23, 2011 and imposed certain additional requirements on Part 50 licensees. Maine Yankee licensed its storage facility under the General Provisions of Part 72 that utilized its specific Part 50 license. NRC alerted Maine Yankee "to evaluate the applicability of the current emergency preparedness requirements to its specific facility and either make appropriate changes" to comply with or apply for an exemption from certain emergency requirements. Maine Yankee initiated an exemption request in June of 2012 from specific emergency plan requirements and was awaiting NRC's decision on their request.
- Maine Yankee submitted to the NRC its funding status report for managing the used nuclear fuel and greater than class C waste at the site. The report noted that $73.5 million had been accumulated in the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund as of December 31, 2012 to cover the cost of managing the spent fuel and projected a cost estimate of $86.7 million to manage the stored fuel through 2023. Maine Yankee reported that they were planning on submitting a revised cost estimate at the end of 2013 to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on extending the duration of their spent fuel storage as proposed by the Department of Energy's January 2013 strategy document to manage the nation's used nuclear stockpile. Maine Yankee noted that it had a number of options to cover its projected costs, namely through its owners, through proceeds received for successful damage claims against the Energy Department for its failure to take possession of its spent nuclear fuel, and its investment return on its Decommissioning Trust Fund. In addition, Maine Yankee also submitted its Decommissioning Funding Assurance Report to the NRC. Maine Yankee explained in the report on how it has segregated its ISFSI decommissioning funds from its ISFSI management costs in a separate account, entitled "ISFSI Radiological Decom". Maine Yankee estimated that $22.1 million in 2012 dollars would be required to decommission the facility and that it had a balance of $22.3 million at the end of 2012 in the Nuclear Decommission Trust for the ISFSI's radiological decommissioning.

The national highlights primarily focused on President Obama's nomination for Energy Secretary, the NRC's summary report on comments to its Waste Confidence Environmental Impact Statement scope, national stakeholders and the federal courts.

National:

- On March 4th President Obama nominated Dr. Ernest Monitz to replace Dr. Chu as the head of the Department of Energy (DOE). Dr. Monitz is a professor of physics and engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and is currently the Director of MIT's Energy Initiative (MITEI) and its founding director. He has served in the Clinton Administration as the Associate Director for Science in the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy. From 1997 to 2001 he served as the Undersecretary of Energy in DOE with oversight over all of DOE's science and energy programs, including the national laboratories.
- The NRC published its waste confidence scoping summary report on the 700 submissions with 1700 individual comments it received from the three public webinars held last November and December. The report outlined the waste scoping period and process, the responses to the scoping comments based on the general themes espoused in the comments, the cited references the NRC used for its comments, and the list of commenters on the scope of the Waste Confidence Generic Environmental Impact Statement. The bulk of the comments centered on radiological health, aging of dry casks and spent nuclear fuel, spent fuel pools, lessons learned from Fukushima, security and terrorism, generic versus site specific approaches, alternatives, new requirements and technologies, the National Environmental Policy Act process, the number and locations for public meetings, and the Generic Environmental Impact Statement scoping period.
- The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) issued a letter to the Chairs and Ranking Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Committees. The NCSL letter praised the bipartisan effort to develop a national policy to manage the used nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. The NCSL urged the four senators to include in their draft legislative package the development and licensing of a geologic repository, the establishment of a consolidated interim storage facility, the formation of a public-private partnership to manage the nuclear waste, and to guarantee that the Nuclear Waste Fund will be used for managing nuclear wastes while modifying the Fund to provide interim storage financing and incentives to host communities. The NCSL further recommended that the siting of facilities be consent based at all levels of government, especially state legislatures.
- The NRC filed its second status report with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on the petition to force the NRC to reopen its licensing proceedings on the Yucca Mountain Project. The NRC continued to maintain that it lacks the necessary funds to complete the proceedings and that the $10 million of carryover funds it has available would be inadequate to complete the licensing proceedings. In its filing with the Court of Appeals the State of Nevada maintained that Congress continued not to appropriate any additional funds to the NRC or DOE to resume the Yucca Mountain licensing proceedings. Therefore, the mandamus petition should be denied. However, the petitioners (the states of South Carolina and Washington, Aiken County, South Carolina, the Tri-City Business Leaders near Hanford, Washington, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and Nye County, Nevada) filed their third supplemental status report with the D.C. Circuit. The petitioners continued to maintain their position that the NRC had no legal basis to unilaterally stop the licensing proceedings and that the NRC has over $10 million leftover that it could apply to resuming licensing activities.

Introduction

As part of the Department of Health and Human Services' responsibility under Title 22, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated (MRSA) §666 (2), as enacted under Public Law, Chapter 539 in the second regular session of the 123rd Legislature, the foregoing is the monthly report from the State Nuclear Safety Inspector.

The State Inspector's individual activities for the past month are highlighted under certain broad categories, as illustrated below. Since some activities are periodic and on-going, there may be some months when very little will be reported under that category. It is recommended for reviewers to examine previous reports to ensure connectivity with the information presented as it would be cumbersome to continuously repeat prior information in every report. Past reports are available from the Radiation Control Program's web site at the following link: www.maineradiationcontrol.org and by clicking on the nuclear safety link in the left hand margin.

Commencing with the January 2010 report the glossary and the historical perspective addendum are no longer included in the report. Instead, this information is available at the Radiation Control Program's website noted above. In some situations the footnotes may include some basic information and may redirect the reviewer to the website. In October 2011 the format of the report was changed to include an executive summary which replaced the official memorandum to the legislative leadership transmitting the report. To further streamline efforts, beginning in August of 2012, the report featured hyperlinks to documents that would normally be attached as copies to the report. The hyperlinks should facilitate the reports review with some readers focusing on the report while others who wish to explore the cited documentation can do so.

Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI)

During March the general status of the ISFSI was normal, with no instances of spurious alarms due to environmental conditions.

There were no fire–related or security-related impairments for the month. No security events were logged.

There were eleven condition reports[1] (CR) for the month and they are described below.

1st CR: Documented the header of a recently issued procedure containing the previous revision number.
2nd CR: Documented a loose ground wire on one of the vertical concrete cask pads. A new wire clamp was installed the same day.
3rd CR: Was written to document another example of a recently issued procedure with the previous revision number on one of the attachments.
4th CR: Was written to document one piece of incoming correspondence being scanned to records prior to removing personally identifying information.
5th CR: Documented ice damage to a door awning.
6th CR: Was written to track training recommendations from a self-assessment.
7th CR: Documented a missing page from a routine physical. The doctor's office forwarded the missing information.
8th CR: Documented a Central Maine Power contractor accepting a package delivery without notifying security first.
9th CR: Was written to track recommendations for an Emergency Plan self-assessment.
10th CR: Documented ice damage to a HVAC duct work on the backside of the Security and Operations Building.
11th CR: Was written to document an in use log that was not current with a recently issued procedure.

Other ISFSI Related Activities

1. On March 18th Maine Yankee submitted comments in response to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) request "regarding retrievability, cladding integrity and safe handling of spent fuel at an ISFSI and during transportation". The NRC sought responses by posing specific questions in four major

[1] A condition report is a report that promptly alerts management to potential conditions that may be adverse to quality or safety. For more information, refer to the glossary on the Radiation Program's website.

subject areas such as acceptance of spent fuel by a future disposal or reprocessing facility, spent fuel retrievability during storage, cladding integrity, and transportation retrievability. Some of NRC's questions centered on the ability of the receiving facility's ability to repackage spent fuel assemblies and whether they should factor that into their regulatory framework. Other questions focused on costs, radiation doses, and maintaining retrievability for canisters or individual spent fuel assemblies in storage or transportation. Maine Yankee's central response was that receiving facilities should have the capabilities to repackage for either storage or disposal. Maine Yankee further stated that it no longer has the capability or the licensing basis to retrieve or repackage.

2. On March 19th the NRC forwarded a letter to Maine Yankee indicating the applicability of the NRC's revised emergency preparedness regulations as they pertain to stand alone ISFSI's or plants in decommissioning status. The new Emergency Plan Rule went into effect on December 23, 2011 and imposed certain additional requirements on Part 50 licensees. Maine Yankee licensed its storage facility under the General Provisions of Part 72 that utilized its specific Part 50 license. NRC alerted Maine Yankee "to evaluate the applicability of the current emergency preparedness requirements to its specific facility and either make appropriate changes" to comply with or apply for an exemption from certain emergency requirements. Maine Yankee initiated an exemption request in June of 2012 from specific emergency plan requirements and was awaiting NRC's decision on its request.

3. On March 19th Maine Yankee submitted to the NRC its funding status report for managing the used nuclear fuel and greater than class C waste at the site. The report noted that $73.5 million had been accumulated in the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund as of December 31, 2012 to cover the cost of managing the spent fuel and projected a cost estimate of $86.7 million to manage the stored fuel through 2023. Maine Yankee reported that they were planning on submitting a revised cost estimate at the end of 2013 to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on extending the duration of their spent fuel storage as proposed by the Department of Energy's strategy document to manage the nation's used nuclear stockpile. Maine Yankee noted that it had the ability to cover its projected costs through its owners, through proceeds received for successful damage claims against the Energy Department for its failure to take possession of its spent nuclear fuel, and its investment return on its Decommissioning Trust Fund.

4. On March 26th Maine Yankee submitted its Decommissioning Funding Assurance Report to the NRC. Maine Yankee explained in the report on how it has segregated its ISFSI decommissioning funds from its ISFSI management costs in a separate account, entitled "ISFSI Radiological Decom". Maine Yankee estimated that $22.1 million in 2012 dollars would be required to decommission the facility and that it had a balance of $22.3 million at the end of 2012 in the Nuclear Decommission Trust for the ISFSI radiological decommissioning. All of this was based on an assumed annual escalation rate of 2.5% and after-tax earnings rate on decommission trust funds of 5.5%.

Environmental

The first quarter's environmental radiation surveillance findings for the ISFSI facility will be reported in the April's monthly report.

Other Newsworthy Items

1. On March 1st the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published a summary of its public teleconference on February 20th with 99 participants representing various factions. The summary listed the various types of questions posed to the NRC. Any discussions during the teleconference will not be

considered formal comments. The web link for the summary can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

2. On March 4th President Obama nominated Dr. Ernest Monitz to replace Dr. Chu as the head of the Department of Energy (DOE). Dr. Monitz is a professor of physics and engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and is currently the Director of MIT's Energy Initiative (MITEI) and its founding director. He has served in the Clinton Administration as the Associate Director for Science in the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy. From 1997 to 2001 he served as the Undersecretary of Energy in DOE with oversight over all of DOE's science and energy programs, including the national laboratories. The web link illustrating Dr. Monitz's background and research projects at MITEI can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

3. On March 4th-5th the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition held its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The first day of the session focused on nuclear waste reform from the Administration's, congressional and other stakeholder organizations' perspectives, the Nuclear Waste Fund, governance, and reform. Other topics included transportation and storage issues, consent agreement opportunities and challenges, and waste confidence. The second day centered on congressional meetings on Capitol Hill. The web link for the agenda can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

4. On March 4th -7th the International Atomic Energy Agency held an international conference in Paris to review fast reactor and fuel cycle technology advances, safety, sustainability, economic and proliferation-resistant issues. Fast reactors hold the promise to create more fuel by converting nuclear waste into fissionable material. The technology would rely on spent fuel reprocessing. The fast reactor technology has the potential to make production of energy from uranium one hundred times more efficient than with current reactors, reducing the amount and toxicity of the radioactive waste, and shortening the waste's hazardous lifetime span from millions to hundreds of years. The conference attracted over 600 experts from 28 countries. The last such conference was held in Japan in 2009. The agenda and presentations for the conference can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

5. On March 5th the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition issued a statement calling on congressional offices to restructure the nation's spent nuclear fuel management program. The Coalition advocated for completing the Yucca Mountain license application, funding and governance reforms, and providing interim storage capabilities for shutdown reactor sites. The web link for the statement can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

6. On March 5th the NRC published a notice of its upcoming public teleconference on the status of its waste confidence generic environmental impact statement and rulemaking. In addition, on the same day the NRC published its waste confidence scoping summary report on the 700 submissions with 1700 individual comments it received from the three public webinars held last November and December. The report outlined the waste scoping period and process, the responses to the scoping comments based on the general themes espoused in the comments, the cited references the NRC used for its comments, and the list of commenters on the scope of the Waste Confidence Generic Environmental Impact Statement. Pages 7-9 provide a highlight of the general concerns expressed by commenters under the broad themes developed by the NRC. The bulk of the comments centered on radiological health, aging of dry casks and spent nuclear fuel, spent fuel pools, lessons learned from Fukushima, security and terrorism, generic versus site specific approaches, alternatives, new requirements and technologies, the National Environmental Policy Act process, the number and locations for public meetings, and the Generic Environmental Impact Statement scoping period. An accompanying 212 page document to the summary was tabulated listing each commenter's comments in 19 broad categories. The web link for the agenda,

scoping summary report and accompanying document can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

7. On March 8th the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board announced its upcoming meeting in Richland, Washington to discuss the Hanford facility's waste form and disposal issues. Specifically, the Board will review the Department of Energy's work on encapsulating high-level waste in glass for disposal in a geologic formation. In addition, the Board was also seeking input from state, local, and regional public organizations on their viewpoints associated with the disposal of these waste forms. The web link for the notification can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

8. On March 12th the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) held a webinar to a national ad hoc working group that is working with the Department of Energy to resurrect recommendations from a 2005 working group on a national funding plan to train state and local public officials in emergency response training to a used nuclear fuel shipment originating or traversing their borders. The purpose was to come to some resolution on recommendations to past key topics before the Yucca Mountain Project was terminated. The focus of this webinar was to closeout four issues from the previous webinar on funding distribution, definitions, state fees, and allowable activities, and, if time permitted, four new issues would be discussed such as timing and eligibility, re-routing, funding operational expenses, and rulemaking. Much of the discussion centered on definitions and allowable activities. The federal perspective was to be as least descriptive as possible whereas the States wanted to be more prescriptive and comprehensive. The thrust of most state participants was to maintain the original recommendations of the 2005 working group and see what the DOE staff and General Counsel would offer in response. Considering the pace at which the issues were being resolved it was decided to have webinars every two weeks to ensure that the ad hoc group was in a position to make recommendations at the NTSF annual meeting in May.

9. On March 12th the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) issued a letter to the Chairs and Ranking Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Committees. The NCSL letter praised the bipartisan effort to develop a national policy to manage the used nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. The NCSL urged the four senators to include in their draft legislative package the development and licensing of a geologic repository, establishment of a consolidated interim storage facility, formation of a public-private partnership to manage the nuclear waste, and guarantee that the Nuclear Waste Fund will be used for managing nuclear wastes while modifying the Fund to provide interim storage financing and incentives to host communities. The NCSL further recommended that the siting of facilities be consent based at all levels of government, especially state legislatures. The web link for the letter can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

10. On March 15th the Nuclear Engineering International magazine published an article on the United Kingdom's three year effort has led to the publication of the first comprehensive guidance on the storage of higher-activity waste packages. The newly published "Industry Guidance on the Interim Storage of Higher-Activity Waste (HAW) Packages" was intended as a practical support manual for operating to decommissioning nuclear power plants, defense, research, and healthcare organizations with storage periods of at least one hundred years. The goal is to provide a consistent approach by accounting for all the challenges for storing HAW for decades. The key was to keep the waste safe and secure in engineered packages and inside stores that are resilient while waiting for the development of a geologic repository for disposal. The applied concept focused on a common set of principles, such as cradle to grave lifecycle, right package with right storage, minimizing waste generation, prevention is better than cure, foresight in design, and effective knowledge management. "In strategic terms, the guidance aims to:

- Standardize the overall approach to interim storage based on maximizing package and store performance, while minimizing the need for package reworking
- Promote cross-industry working and establish common approaches for long-term management of waste packages in interim storage
- Inform store planning and design, and monitoring and inspection programs
- Enhance the recognition of the important relationship between waste packaging, storage, transport, and disposal by stakeholders
- Improve the visibility of the wide range of work generated by the Integrated Project Team to regulators and stakeholders."

The web link for the extended summary or the full report can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

11. On March 15th the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition held its bi-weekly conference call to update its membership on its recent annual meeting and associated Capitol Hill visits and a presentation by NRC's Director of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation, Mark Lombard. The NRC brief included the current spent fuel storage status in the nation, what the NRC priorities were, ISFSI renewal status, interim consolidated storage, special issues, Fukushima lessons learned and NRC licensing program initiatives. some of his time was spent responding to five questions posed by the State of Maine on what monitoring capabilities will be needed going forward to maintain cask and used fuel integrity, why does the NRC license stand-alone ISFS's knowing full well that the infrastructure to load, reload, and repackage disappear when the site is decommissioned, what about security requirements going forward, will the NRC look beyond design basis accidents like Fukushima, and standardization of transportable casks. The Hill visits centered on funding and governance reforms. Senators Alexander and Murkowski expressed concerns over the federal corporation model and preferred the single Administrator model to head a new agency for nuclear waste management. The House was still focused on resuming the Yucca Mountain proceedings while the Senate was more on governance reforms and consolidated interim storage.

12. On March 20th the NRC held its monthly public teleconference to discuss the status of its Waste Confidence Generic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and rulemaking. The NRC staff discussed at length the issuance of its Scoping Summary Report that was issued on March 5th and explained how the report was structured, how the comments were addressed and what references the staff used for the report. The NRC informed the participants that the draft EIS should be available this September with a 75 day comment period. The NRC stated they anticipated eight regional public meetings would be held at different locations throughout the country with one national webcast. The final number of meetings and their specific locations will be disclosed at their April monthly teleconference. The web link for the teleconference summary can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

13. On March 21st President Obama nominated NRC Chairman, Dr. Allison Macfarlane to a new five year term. Dr. Macfarlane was originally nominated to a one year term last June to replace former Chairman, Dr. Gregory Jaczko, who had resigned amidst complaints about his bullying management style. The appointment requires Senate approval.

14. On March 25th the State Nuclear Safety Inspector (SNSI) was unable to attend the March 26th webinar on national funding for emergency preparedness for spent fuel shipments. However, the SNSI did provide his comments and positions on all the issues before the ad hoc group to the Director of the Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force for inclusion in his discussions with the national group.

15. On March 27th the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) filed its second status report with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on the petition to force the NRC to reopen its licensing proceedings on the Yucca Mountain Project. The NRC continued to maintain that it lacks the necessary funds to complete the proceedings and that the $10 million of carryover funds it has available would be inadequate to complete the licensing proceedings. The web link for the filing can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

16. On March 27th the petitioners (the states of South Carolina and Washington, Aiken County, South Carolina, the Tri-City Business Leaders near Hanford, Washington, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and Nye County, Nevada) filed their third supplemental status report with the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals on their mandamus filing. The petitioners continued to maintain their position that the NRC had no legal basis to unilaterally stop the licensing proceedings and that it has over $10 million leftover that it could apply to resuming licensing activities. The web link for the supplemental report can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

17. On March 28th the State of Nevada filed with the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit its second status report as an intervenor in the mandamus case. The State maintained that Congress continued not to appropriate any additional funds to the NRC or DOE to resume the Yucca Mountain licensing proceedings. Therefore, the mandamus petition should be denied. The web link for the status report can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

18. On March 28th The Heritage Foundation published an issue brief on their perspective for minimum requirements for reforms and legislation on nuclear waste management in response to proposed legislation that basically maintains the status quo by just redefining it. The author presented five criteria to promote lasting reform. The first was "complete the Yucca Mountain permit review at the NRC" since it is the law and the nation deserved to know the outcome of NRC's review. The second was "permit a permanent repository first" as interim storage may be a quick but dreadful fix since it does nothing to solve the larger problem of disposal. The third criterion would be to "make producers responsible for waste management". In foreign countries the waste producers are responsible for waste management whereas in the U.S. the government is responsible for waste management and disposal. "This removes the incentive for those who financially depend on waste production to have any interest in how the waste is managed." The fourth is "accurate pricing for management and disposal services" by paying only for the actual cost of services rendered as oppose to paying a flat fee to the federal government for undefined and failing services. The last criterion would be to "allow for competition in waste management". It would provide an incentive for private enterprise to provide waste services more economically than the federal government. The web link for the brief can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

19. On March 29th the NRC published in the Federal Register a proposed rule, entitled "Shielding and Radiation protection Review Effort and Licensing Conditions for Dry Storage Applications". The NRC was seeking public comments on its proposed rule for portions applicable to certificates of compliance for spent fuel storage casks at Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations. The NRC developed the guidance to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of staff reviews on shielding and radiation protection, the conditions the staff should include in certificates of compliance, specific licenses and technical specifications, and verifying the analyses performed by applicants. The web link for the draft guidance document can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.