

the public were issued in the regional area surrounding the Tooele Army Depot.

DATES: Written public comments and suggestions received within 45 days of the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability for this action will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement can be obtained by writing to Mr. Glenn Coffee, U.S. Army Engineer District, Attn: CESAM-PD-E, P.O. Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001.

Dated: August 23, 1995.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (IL&E).

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Implementation Plan for the Environmental Impact Statement for a Multi-Purpose Canister System for Management of Civilian and Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy announces the availability of the Implementation Plan for the Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed Multi-Purpose Canister System for Management of Civilian and Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel. The purpose of the Implementation Plan is to report the results of the public scoping and public participation processes and to serve as a plan for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement. The Implementation Plan also describes the alternatives and issues to be evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the Multi-Purpose Canister Environmental Impact Statement, please contact: Gerald J. Parker, Multi-Purpose Canister Environmental Impact Statement Manager, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (RW-45), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Room 7F-075, Washington, D.C. 20585, 202-586-5679.

To request copies of the Implementation Plan, please call 1-800-672-3304.

For general information on the Department's National Environmental

Policy Act review process, please contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, 202-586-4600 or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 24, 1994, the Department of Energy issued a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** (55 FR 53442) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the fabrication and deployment of a multi-purpose canister-based system for the management of civilian spent nuclear fuel (MPC Environmental Impact Statement). In the Notice of Intent, the Department identified the proposed action as the fabrication and deployment of certain components of a multi-purpose canister-based system. Specifically, the proposed action includes two sizes of MPCs (a 125-ton and a 75-ton MPC), with associated rail transportation casks and on-site transfer casks. The proposed action would provide a standardized container system to handle, store, transport and dispose of spent nuclear fuel in order to minimize or eliminate the need for the spent nuclear fuel to be removed from canisters or casks during storage and transportation, and, to the extent practicable, be compatible with disposal. DOE requested comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Notice of Intent established a public scoping period which began October 24, 1994, and ended January 6, 1995. However, the Department found it practicable to consider all comments received by March 31, 1995. The Department held public scoping meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 21, 1994; Chicago, Illinois on November 30, 1994; and Washington, D.C. on December 7, 1994, to provide an opportunity for public participation by interested individuals, organizations, and other governmental agencies. During the public scoping period, about 400 commenters provided a total of 2,832 comments, either by participating in the meetings or by submitting comments via response forms, letters, postcards, toll-free telephone messages, facsimiles, electronic mail, or electronic bulletin board to the Department. In response to comments received during scoping from the Department of the Navy, the scope of the MPC Environmental Impact Statement has been expanded to include consideration of the use of MPCs, and alternatives to the MPC-based system, for naval spent

nuclear fuel. The Department of the Navy will be a cooperating agency in preparing this EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 and 10 CFR 1021.342.

MPC Environmental Impact Statement Alternatives

The alternatives to be evaluated in the MPC Environmental Impact Statement address future dry storage, transportation, and disposal needs, and include the fabrication and deployment of a range of single- and dual-purpose cask and canister hardware systems, and a multi-purpose canister hardware system. The alternative hardware systems differ in whether they are based on single-unit, heavily-shielded "casks" that feature bolted lids, or on relatively thin-walled "canisters" that are sealed by welding and used with separate, specialized overpacks for purposes of storage, transportation, or disposal.

The five alternatives to the proposed action that will be evaluated in this EIS are: (1) A "no-action" alternative, which is the current technology comprising different systems of specialized single- and dual-purpose canisters and casks that have been certified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or are currently undergoing certification; (2) the current technology supplemented by high-capacity rail transportation casks; (3) a system of transportable storage casks; (4) a system of dual-purpose canisters; and (5) a system utilizing only the small (75-ton) MPCs. Alternatives (4) and (5) were added in response to comments received during the public scoping period.

Areas to be Addressed

The MPC Environmental Impact Statement will address potential environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives in three general areas: (1) manufacturing, (2) handling and storage activities at facilities, and (3) transportation. The analysis of the potential environmental impacts of these three areas of activity will emphasize those impacts which discriminate among the alternatives.

Manufacturing

Because the actual sites where manufacturing would take place have not been chosen, the analysis of potential manufacturing impacts will be based on the environmental settings of typical or representative manufacturing facilities (those facilities that currently produce hardware identical or similar to the proposed or alternative hardware systems), as well as a qualitative site-specific analysis at two known potential manufacturing locations.

Handling and Storage

The evaluation of at-reactor handling and storage activities will be based on representative site data derived from data collected at existing spent fuel storage locations. Site-specific National Environmental Policy Act documents for commercial reactor sites already have been issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Handling and storage activities for naval spent nuclear fuel at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory will be addressed in the Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Appendix to the MPC Environmental Impact Statement. The analysis in the MPC Environmental Impact Statement of potential impacts at a repository will consider the use of the MPC and alternative hardware systems only for surface activities, since ultimate disposition impacts can be meaningfully assessed only in connection with proposed repository acceptance criteria. Such criteria will be analyzed in a separate Environmental Impact Statement that the Department will prepare for the candidate repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

Transportation

The impacts of transportation activities for each alternative will be assessed using existing transportation impact models for shipments. Transportation evaluations would consider shipments between each existing storage location and two hypothetical Monitored Retrievable Storage facility locations, and subsequently to the candidate repository facility at Yucca Mountain, or between each existing storage location directly to the candidate repository facility. Representative routes will be chosen between origination and destination sites for purposes of assessing the potential risks involved in such transportation, including use of a potential rail spur at Yucca Mountain.

Availability of Implementation Plan

Copies of the Implementation Plan are being provided to Federal agencies, Indian tribal organizations, State and local government agencies, public interest groups, manufacturers of equipment, transportation interests, industry and utility organizations, regulators, and members of the general public who indicated an interest in receiving a copy or who participated in the public scoping processes. The Implementation Plan will be provided upon request to additional parties who express interest by calling 1-800-672-3304. Copies of the Implementation Plan also have been placed in the

Department of Energy reading rooms identified below. Please contact the individual reading rooms for information on their hours of operation and the availability of the Implementation Plan.

Department of Energy Freedom of Information Public Reading Rooms

Albuquerque Operations Office:

National Atomic Museum, Building 20358, Wyoming Boulevard, P.O. Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400, Attn: Diane Leute (505) 845-4378

Los Alamos Community Reading Room, 1450 Central, Suite 101, Los Alamos, NM 87544, Attn: Tim Ribe (505) 665-2127

Bartlesville Project Office/National Institute for Petroleum and Energy Research, BPO/NIPER Library, U.S. Department of Energy, 220 North Virginia Avenue, P.O. Box 2128, Bartlesville, OK 74003, Attn: Josh Stroman (918) 337-4371

Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, 905 N.E. 11th St., P.O. Box 3621-ALP, Portland, OR 97208, Attn: Gene Tollefson (503) 230-6877

Chicago Operations Office, Document Department, University of Illinois at Chicago, 801 South Morgan Street, Chicago, IL 60607, Attn: John Shuler (312) 413-2594 or 996-2738

Dallas Support Office, U.S. Department of Energy, 1420 W. Mockingbird Lane, Suite 400, Dallas, TX 75247, Attn: Gailene Reinhold (214) 767-7185

Golden Field Office, DOE Public Reading Room, 14869 Denver West Parkway, Golden, CO 80401, Attn: Chris Powers (303) 275-4742

Headquarters Office, U.S. Department of Energy, Room 1E-190, Forrestal Bldg., 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585, Attn: Carolyn Lawson (202) 586-3142

Idaho Operations Office, Idaho Public Reading Room, 1776 Science Center Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83402, Attn: Carl Robertson (208) 526-0271

Morgantown Energy Technology Center, METC Library, U.S. Department of Energy, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown, WV 26505, Attn: Matt Marsteller (304) 291-4183

Ohio Field Office, FOI Public Reading Room, 1 Mound Road, Miamisburg, OH 45342, Attn: Jane Greenwalt (513) 865-4468

Richland Operations Office, Washington State University, Tri-Cities Branch Campus, 100 Sprout Road, Richland, WA 99352, Attn: Terri Traub (509) 376-8583

Rocky Flats Field Office, Public Reading Room, Front Range Community

College Library, 3645 West 112th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80030, Attn: Will-Ann Lamsens (303) 469-4435

Nevada Operations Office, U.S.

Department of Energy, Public Reading Room, 2621 Losee Road, Building B-3, North Las Vegas, NV 89030, Attn: Cynthia Ashley (702) 295-1623 or -0848

Oak Ridge Operations Office, U.S.

Department of Energy, Public Reading Room, 55 Jefferson Circle, Room 112, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, Attn: Amy L. Rothrock (acting) (615) 241-4780

Oakland Operations Office, U.S.

Department of Energy, Public Reading Room, EIC, 8th Floor, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA 94612-5208, Attn: Lauren L. Noble (510) 637-1762

Savannah River Operations Office,

Gregg-Granite Library, University of South Carolina-Aiken, 171 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801, Attn: Paul Lewis (803) 641-3320

Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center, U.S. Department of Energy, Building 922/M210, Wallace Road, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, Attn: Ann C. Dunlap (412) 892-6167

Southeastern Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, Legal Library, Samuel Elbert Building, 2 South Public Square, Elberton, GA 30635-2496, Attn: Joel W. Seymour (706) 213-3800

Southwestern Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, Public Reading Room, 1 West 3rd St., P.O. Box 1619, Tulsa, OK 74101, Attn: Marti Ayers (918) 581-6804

Strategic Petroleum Reserve Project Management Office, U.S. Department of Energy, SPRPMO/SEB Reading Room, 900 Commerce Road, New Orleans, LA 70123, Attn: Ulysses Washington (504) 734-4243

Superconducting Super Collider Termination Project Office, U.S. Department of Energy, 2550 Beckleymeade Avenue, Dallas, TX 75237, Attn: Gina Dan (214) 708-2526

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The Department expects to issue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public comment in December 1995; public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be scheduled and announced at that time.

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 27th day of August, 1995.

Lake H. Barrett,

Deputy Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.

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