

NRC Perspective: Regulatory Framework for Reprocessing

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Reprocessing Public Meeting
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NRC Perspective

- NRC is an independent government agency
- Protect public health and safety and the environment in commercial uses of radioactive material
- Where appropriate, use risk-informed, performance based regulations to meet NRC's mission
- Seeking stakeholder input on proposed rulemaking for reprocessing facilities
- NRC does not set national policy for reprocessing, but will provide a stable framework in response to evolution of national policy and licensee needs
- Provide framework fully informed by latest scientific knowledge and stakeholder input
- Provide flexibility for future technological developments
- Does not constitute endorsement of reprocessing

Who would write the regulations?

- Lead: Division of High Level Waste in Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (**NMSS**)
- Rulemaking and Technical Support: Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (**FSME**)
- Interoffice collaboration including
 - Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (**NSIR**)
 - Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (**RES**)
 - Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards (**FCSS**, former lead office)

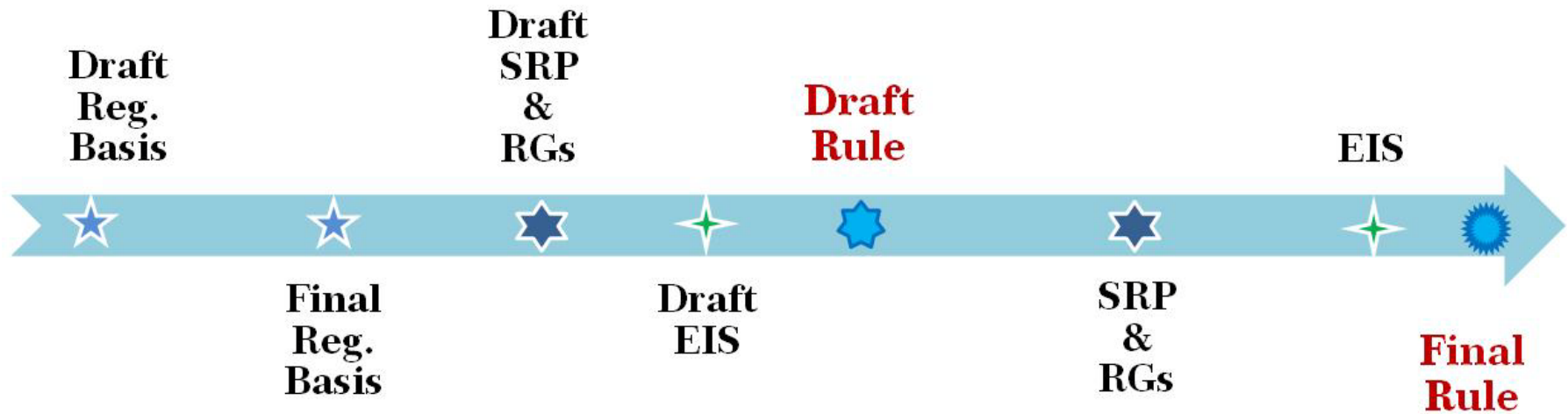


What is the process?

- SECY-09-0082 identified 19 gaps in current regulations to be resolved for licensing to occur
- Draft regulatory basis document and rulemaking recommendation due to Commission in September 2011
- Parallel rulemaking efforts close some gaps
- Commission will provide rulemaking direction
- If recommended for rulemaking
 - Final gap document
 - Rulemaking plan
 - Environmental Impact Statement
 - Regulatory Guidance



What is the timeline?



Where are we now?

- Draft regulatory basis document development and SECY paper planned for September 2011
- Technical staff proposed closures to gaps
- Proposed gap closures presented in this meeting for input
 - Overview presentations
 - Summaries provided online
 - Roundtable discussions
 - Opportunities for public comment
- Stakeholder interactions considered in writing of final draft
- Final draft of Environmental Topical Report (FSME) planned for November 2011

Stakeholder Views

- Input from previous public meetings
- Examples of written input considered include
 - NUREG-1909 (from ACNW&M)
 - NEI White Paper
 - Correspondence from Union of Concerned Scientists
- Letters received from AREVA and GE-Hitachi in Spring 2011
- DOE seminars on reprocessing (aqueous and electrochemical)
- Preliminary recommendations from Blue Ribbon Commission



June 21-22, 2011 Meeting

- Booklet provided with summaries of gap issue and proposed closures or alternatives
- Specific questions for which stakeholder input is sought; will provide focus of discussions
- Further comments can be submitted on www.regulations.gov until July 7th
- Feedback form about this meeting

