

Policies

Country: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Reporting Year: 2007

National Systems

Policy		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q14	Has your Country implemented a national policy for radioactive waste management?	Yes
Comment	# 7187: US Policy	
	A discussion on US policy can be found in Section B.1 of the U.S. National Report for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.	
Comment	# 12133: Policies National Systems-Policy	
	U.S. National Report for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, DOE/EM-0654, Rev 2, U.S. Department of Energy, October 2008.	
Attachment	#823: Questionnaire	
	U.S. National Report for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, DOE/EM-0654, U.S. Department of Energy, May 2003	
Attachment	#1600: Questionnaire	
	USA JC3.pdf	
	U.S. National Report for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, DOE/EM-0654, Rev 2, U.S. Department of Energy, October 2008	

Strategies		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q15	Has your country developed strategies to implement a national policy?	Yes
Comment	# 7188: US Practices	
	A discussion on US practices can be found in Section B.4 of the U.S. National Report for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management. The document is in the NEWMDB reading room.	

Requirements		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q17	identified the parties involved in the different steps of radioactive waste management	Yes
Q18	specified a rational set of safety, radiological and environmental protection objectives	Yes
Q19	implemented a mechanism to identify existing and anticipated radioactive wastes	Yes
Q20	implemented controls over radioactive waste generation	Yes
Q21	identified available methods and facilities to process, store and dispose of radioactive waste on an appropriate time-scale	Yes
Q22	taken into account interdependencies among all steps in radioactive waste generation and management	Yes
Q23	implemented appropriate research and development to support the operational and regulatory needs	Yes
Q24	implemented a funding structure and the allocation of resources that are essential for radioactive waste management	Yes
Q25	implemented formal mechanisms for disseminating information to the public and for public consultation	Yes

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Responsibilities		(Complete;Incomplete)
Q28	establish and implement a legal framework for the management of radioactive waste	Complete
Q29	establish or designate a regulatory body that has the responsibility for carrying out the regulatory function with regard to safety and the protection of human health and the environment.	Complete
Q30	define the responsibilities of waste generators and operators of waste management facilities	Complete
Q31	provide for adequate resources	Complete
Q33	enforce compliance with regulatory requirements	Complete
Q34	implement the licensing process	Complete
Q35	advise the government	Complete
Q37	identify an acceptable destination for the radioactive waste	Complete
Q114	comply with legal requirements	Complete

Activities		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q43	perform safety and environmental impact assessments for radioactive waste management facilities	Yes
Q44	ensure adequate radiation protection for workers, the general public and the environment	Yes
Q45	ensure suitable staff, equipment, facilities, training and operating procedures are available to perform the safe radioactive waste management steps	Yes
Q46	establish and implement a quality assurance programme for the radioactive waste generated or its processing, storage and disposal	Yes
Q47	establish and keep records of appropriate information regarding the generation, processing, storage and disposal of radioactive waste, including an inventory of radioactive waste	Yes
Q48	provide surveillance and control of activities involving radioactive waste as required by the regulatory body	Yes
Q49	collect, analyze and, as appropriate, share operational experience to ensure continued safety improvements in radioactive waste management	Yes
Q50	conduct or otherwise ensure appropriate research and development to support operational needs in radioactive waste management	Yes

Comment **# 7189: Information Collected**

Information collected (clarification): manifests of waste sent to disposal sites contain information regarding generation, processing, transport and disposal of radioactive waste. The MIMS system compiles commercial LLW data. The USDOE compiles information from its facilities, such as WIPP.

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Clearance		(Yes;No)
Q128	Does your country have "clearly defined clearance levels based on radiological criteria, with policy statements that material below those levels can be recycled or disposed of with non-radioactive wastes"?	No
Q129	Has your country ever used a "case-by-case" approach to clearing radioactive wastes (excluding spent/disused sealed radioactive sources)?	Yes
Q130	Has your country ever used clearance levels to dispose of, reuse or recycle radioactive waste as non-radioactive waste or as a non-radioactive resource (excluding spent/disused sealed radioactive sources)?	No

Comment **# 9793: Policies National Systems-Clearance**

The U.S. has regulations in place that allow case-by-case authorized limits for release of waste or material from radiation areas for disposal. These are successfully applied. However, the U.S. does not have clearance levels.

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Disposal Facilities

Licensing		(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)
Q53	Environmental Assessment (EA)	Yes - All
Q54	Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	Yes - All
Q55	Performance Assessment (PA)	Yes - All
Q56	Quality Assurance (QA)	Yes - All
Q57	Safety Assessment (SA)	Yes - All
Q59	If Quality Assurance is part of your Country's current, waste disposal facility licensing policy, does the QA Program conform to international standards (such as the ISO9000 series)?	Yes - Some

Comment **# 7219: International Standards**

USNRC and USDOE require strict adherence to QA programs. At present these standards do not implement ISO 9000. USNRC have considered how broader international standards in ISO 9000 could be applied within the USNRC 20 CFR Part 50 requirements. See the following link for USNRC staff paper on this topic: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/secys/2003/secy2003-0117/2003-0117scy.html>

Operation		(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)
Q60	Does your Country have formal, documented waste acceptance criteria for its operating or proposed disposal facilities?	Yes - All

Comment **# 7220: Waste Acceptance Requirements**

Several documents on waste acceptance are included in the NEWMDB public reading room.

Post-Closure		(Yes;No)
Q61	Does your Country have any written policies to address the maintenance of records that describe the design, location and inventory of waste disposal facilities?	Yes
Q62	If the answer to the previous question was YES, does your Country have any policies, laws or regulations that prescribe what records are to be maintained?	Yes
Q63	Does your Country have any written policies to address active institutional controls or passive institutional controls, such as monitoring or access restrictions?	Yes
Q65	access restrictions	Yes
Q66	drainage and/or leachate collection system(s)	Yes
Q67	leachate treatment systems	Yes
Q68	environmental monitoring	Yes
Q69	facility monitoring	Yes
Q70	surveillance	Yes
Q71	plans for intervention measures during active institutional control if there is an unplanned release of radioactive materials from the disposal facility	Yes

Comment **# 108: Reference Long Term Stewardship Report**

A Report to Congress on Long-Term Stewardship, DOE/EM-0563, January 2001
Consists of 2 volumes: a summary report and site summaries. Copies available from U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management

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Processing/Storage

Policies/Procedures		(Yes;No)
Q73	waste sorting/segregation	No
Q74	waste minimization	Yes
Q75	waste storage	Yes
Q76	processing and/or storing and/or disposing of nuclear fuel cycle waste separately from non-nuclear fuel cycle waste (also known as nuclear applications waste)	No
Q78	Does your country have any legislation, regulation, or policy that waste processing must take place prior to storage (see following note)	No

Comment # 111: Recycling Policies

Executive Order 12780 Federal Agency Recycling and the Council on Federal Recycling and Procurement Policy
 Executive Order 13101 Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition

Implementation		(Yes;No)
Q80	In your Country are there any waste processing facilities at the same location where the waste is generated?	Yes
Q81	In your Country are there any centralized waste processing facilities?	Yes
Q82	In your Country are there any mobile waste processing facilities?	Yes

Comment # 112: Question on centralized processing

The US has some commercial and governmental facilities that process/treat waste prior to disposal. These are assumed to meet the IAEA definition of centralized processing, although they may only process a small portion of wastes from throughout the nation.

Foreign		(Yes;No)
Q121	Has your country sent any wastes or spent fuel to another country for processing (reprocessing for fuel)?	No
Q124	Has your country accepted any wastes or spent fuel from another country for processing (reprocessing for fuel)?	No

Comment # 17817: Policies Processing/Storage-Foreign

The USNRC reviews applications for waste imports. Some radioactive waste has been imported for treatment/recycle.

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Spent/Disused SRS

Registration		(Yes;No)
Q84	Is there a national level registry?	Yes
Q85	If answer was yes, is the registry used only for disused/spent SRS?	No
Q87	Are there regional-level registries (one or more)?	Yes
Q88	If the answer was yes, are any registries used only for disused/spent SRS?	No
Q90	Are there local-level registries (one or more)?	Yes
Q115	If the answer was yes, are any registries used only for disused/spent SRS?	No

Comment **# 110: Sealed Sources Registrations**

National: US Nuclear Regulatory Commission - National Sealed Source and Device Registry

Regional: US Department of Energy Offsite Sealed Source Recovery Program Registry

Local: Some US Department of Energy sites have local registries

Procedures		(Yes;No)
Q91	Does your Country have documented procedures in place to ensure that sealed radioactive sources (SRS) are transferred to secure facilities in a timely manner after their user declares them to be spent?	No

Agreements		(Yes;No)
Q93	Government to Government agreements	No
Q94	Government - Supplier agreements	Yes
Q95	Supplier-User agreements	Yes
Q97	Do any agreements include suppliers that are outside of your Country?	No

Release / Disposal		(Yes;No)
Q99	Does your Country have any regulations to free-release spent sealed radioactive sources (SRS)?	No
Q100	Has your Country disposed of spent SRS in existing disposal facilities for LILW or HLW waste?	Yes
Q101	Does your Country plan to dispose of spent SRS in existing or planned disposal facilities for LILW or HLW waste?	Yes
Q102	Has your Country implemented dedicated disposal facilities for spent SRS?	No
Q103	Does your Country have plans to implement dedicated disposal facilities for spent SRS?	No

Comment **# 17818: Policies Spent/Disused SRS-Release / Disposal**

The Department of Energy is evaluating disposal of greater-than-class C low-level radioactive waste. One option being considered is borehole disposal. Some spent sources may be disposed in such a facility. No decision has been made at this time.

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Import-Export

Radioactive Waste

(Yes;No)

Q104 Does your Country have laws or Regulations restricting either the import or export of radioactive waste (excluding spent fuel)? Yes

Comment # 160: Citations for import/export regulation and law

Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 110.1, Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Material
 United States Code, Title 42, Chapter 23, Subchapter X, International Activities (Sections 2153, 2160, 2160c)
 Atomic Energy Act of 1954

Spent Fuel

(Yes;No)

Q105 Does your Country have laws or Regulations restricting either the import or export of spent fuel? Yes

Liquid HLW

Storage

(Yes;No)

Q106 Does your Country have high-level liquid wastes in storage? Yes

Processing

(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)

Q107 If your Country has high-level liquid wastes in storage, are there documented plans in place to process these liquids? Yes - All

Timeframe

(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)

Q108 If your Country has high-level liquid wastes in storage, are there plans to have this waste be processed within a specified time frame? Yes - All

Q109 If the answer to the previous question is Yes, what year is this processing planned to be completed (format = YYYY) 2050

UMMT

Responsibility

(Yes;No)

Q110 Does your Country have any Uranium Mine and Mill Tailings sites that do not have a designated authority to manage them? No

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Decommissioning

Funding

(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)

Q111 Does your Country require that funds should be set aside in support of future waste management activities, such as decommissioning activities? Yes - Some

Comment # 109: Decommissioning costs

Fees are collected from nuclear power utilities to cover life cycle costs including decommissioning of HLW repositories

Facilities

(Yes;No)

Q119 Does Your Country have any nuclear fuel cycle facilities? Yes

Q120 Does Your Country have any nuclear applications facilities (non fuel cycle facilities)? Yes

Timeframe

(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)

Q112 Does your Country require a time frame for the decommissioning of nuclear fuel cycle facilities once these facilities cease operation? No

Q113 Does your Country require a time frame for the decommissioning of non-nuclear fuel cycle facilities once these facilities cease operation? No