



Nuclear Energy Information Service

Illinois' Nuclear Power Watchdog since 1981

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NEIS POSITIONS ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE at DOE CONSENT-BASED SITING PUBLIC MEETING Chicago, Illinois March 29, 2016

DOE's hypothetical question:

“From your perspective, what are the primary issues that need to be resolved in the design and implementation of a consent-based process to site nuclear waste facilities?”

NEIS' positions for the management of “spent-fuel” radioactive wastes:

NEIS' positions on the management of “spent” reactor fuel and radioactive wastes have been public and well known for years and decades; and reflect similar positions of hundreds of other environmental organizations nationwide. To date no governmental agency or nuclear industry entity has adopted or implemented a single recommendation from the public – demonstrating the track record of government responsiveness to public input, and indicating its likely future level of responsiveness:

1. Establish an independent, transparent process resulting in the construction of a permanent, deep-geological disposal facility as soon as possible. (Our position since the early 1980s).
2. In the interim, manage radioactive wastes (spent fuel) at reactor sites using “HOSS”: “hardened, on-site storage.” Do not contaminate new sites through the creation of “centralized interim storage” facilities. (Our position since 2002).
3. Transport the spent fuel only once – from the reactor sites to the permanent disposal facility. (Our position since 2002).
4. Implement the first and cardinal rule of waste management: stop making more it, especially if you do not have a permanent disposal mechanism in operation. (Our position since 1981).