

Record of WebEx Q&A Session

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Category 3 Meeting on Draft Interpretive Rule for Very Low-level Waste (VLLW) Disposal Activities

Docket Number: (n/a)

Location: Teleconference / Webinar

Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Jeff Burrigh - 10:26 AM

Q: Hi there, quick format question. Does the Webex allow me to see other participants or only myself? In other words, am I the only non-NRC person here right now? Thanks.

Marlayna Doell - 10:28 AM

A: Hi Jeff! No you are not alone...the participant list is turned off for this meeting.

Jeff Burrigh - 10:29 AM

Q: Oh good. I didn't want the pressure of being an audience of one. Thanks!

Marlayna Doell - 10:45 AM

A: There are currently 140 participants.

Matthew Beeter - 11:07 AM

Q: Are you going to provide the slides to us all, or can you send it to me?

Marlayna Doell - 11:10 AM

A: They are posted on the public site at <https://www.nrc.gov/waste/llw-disposal/transfer-vllw.html>, but I can also send them to you after the close of the meeting.

Maria Caine - 11:11 AM

Q: I'm a little confused. Would sites applying for exemption be required to complete an Environmental Impact Statement under NEPA and would NRC be enforcing this?

Marlayna Doell - 11:32 AM

A: Thanks Maria. I will note these and your chat window questions for the record.

David Howe - 11:12 AM

Q: Does NRC have any idea how many entities might apply for an exemption? If an Agreement [State] small RML staff, what is the likelihood of being overwhelmed by exemption requests and completing the review process?

Marlayna Doell - 11:29 AM

A: Thanks David. The potential number of exemptions expected is one of the things we are thinking through as part of potential implementation. I will note your question and make sure it is recorded.

Conrad Miller MD - 11:14 AM

Q: Why at this time are you trying to redo what the public rejected in about 1991 when it was called Below Regulatory Concern, where you played basically the same game, not planning to measure the specific radionuclide concentration?

Marlayna Doell - 11:30 AM

A: Thanks Conrad. I will note this comment for the record.

Charley Bowman - 11:14 AM

Q: Are landfill owners required to monitor the radioactivity of the contents of each truck entering their facility? If so, will those records be available to the public? Will radiation monitors be required to monitor the groundwater emanating from the landfill?

Marlayna Doell - 11:31 AM

A: Thanks Charley. I will note these questions for the record.

Conrad Miller MD - 11:16 AM

Q: VLLW vs LLW vs VLLLW ??? What is the difference?

Conrad Miller MD - 11:18 AM

Q: Why would Americans want radioactive waste to possibly go to any dump, removing the liability for this very toxic long-lived waste from the generators to the taxpayer?

Carole Hisasue - 11:38 AM

Q: 1) There is no safe "dose" of radiation. 2) No matter how "low" the level might be, as more and more of it gets disposed in landfills and dumps, the total radiation level will go up. 3) People living close by will be exposed 24/7, violating their rights.

Marlayna Doell - 11:43 AM

A: Thanks Carole. I will note these comments for the record.

Kalene Walker - 12:14 PM

Q: Will the NRC please post a list of all exemptions already granted related to this proposal?

Marlayna Doell - 12:33 PM

A: There are no exemptions related to this proposal at this time as it is still in the proposed / consideration phase.

Kalene Walker - 12:28 PM

Q: Comment: As stated in the many comments, this proposal reflects poorly on the NRC's level of commitment and competence in regulating for nuclear safety. Please withdraw it. Thank you.

Marlayna Doell - 12:35 PM

A: Thank you. I will make sure this comment is captured in the record.

Donna Gilmore - 12:28 PM

Q: Will a transcript of all comments & presentations be available?

Marlayna Doell - 12:34 PM

A: Yes. A meeting summary will be prepared that includes the full transcript as well as the contents of the Webex chat and Q&A windows.

Donna Gilmore - 12:29 PM

Q: Please provide a list of current exemptions approved (sites).

Marlayna Doell - 12:37 PM

A: There are no exemptions related to this proposal at this time as it is still in the proposed / consideration phase.

Donna Gilmore - 12:39 PM

Q: I thought a presenter said there have been past exemptions.

Marlayna Doell - 12:42 PM

A: Only as part of the 10 CFR 20.2002 process at this point.
