



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 27, 2015

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

REOPENING OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS, 10 CFR PARTS 20 AND 61
(STC-15-068)

Purpose: To notify the Agreement States that a notice reopening the public comment period on the proposed rule entitled "Low-level radioactive waste disposal" and associated guidance was published in the *Federal Register* (FR) on August 27, 2015 (80 FR 51964).

Background: The U.S. Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing to amend Parts 20 and 61 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) as related to the licensing requirements for land disposal of low-level radioactive waste (LLRW). The proposed amendments would require LLWR waste disposal licensees and license applicants to prepare revised and new site-specific technical analyses to ensure that LLRW streams that are significantly different from those LLRW streams considered in the current 10 CFR Part 61 regulatory basis can be disposed of safely and meet the performance objectives in subpart C of 10 CFR Part 61. The amended regulations would also allow the development of site-specific criteria for the acceptance of LLRW based on the result of the technical analyses. Finally, the proposed amendments would facilitate implementation and better align the requirements with current health and safety standards.

The proposed rule was originally published in the FR (80 FR 16082) on March 26, 2015. The rule is posted on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. NRC-2011-0012. On March 26, 2015, the NRC also published a notice of availability of the draft guidance to go with these proposed changes (80 FR 15930) in the FR. The notice of availability of the draft guidance is also posted on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. NRC-2015-0003. The comment period for both documents originally expired on July 26, 2015.

Discussion: Comments for both the proposed rule and the conforming guidance documents should be submitted by September 21, 2015. Comments received after these dates will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before the due dates.

STC-15-068

-2-

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual listed below:

POINT OF CONTACT: Gary Comfort
TELEPHONE: 301-415-8106

INTERNET: Gary.Comfort@nrc.gov

/RA Pamela Henderson for/

Josephine M. Piccone, Director
Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal
and Rulemaking Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards