

Moving Forward With Consent-Based Siting

How We Got Here

The Path Forward

History and Our
Approach

Our Vision



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Nuclear Energy

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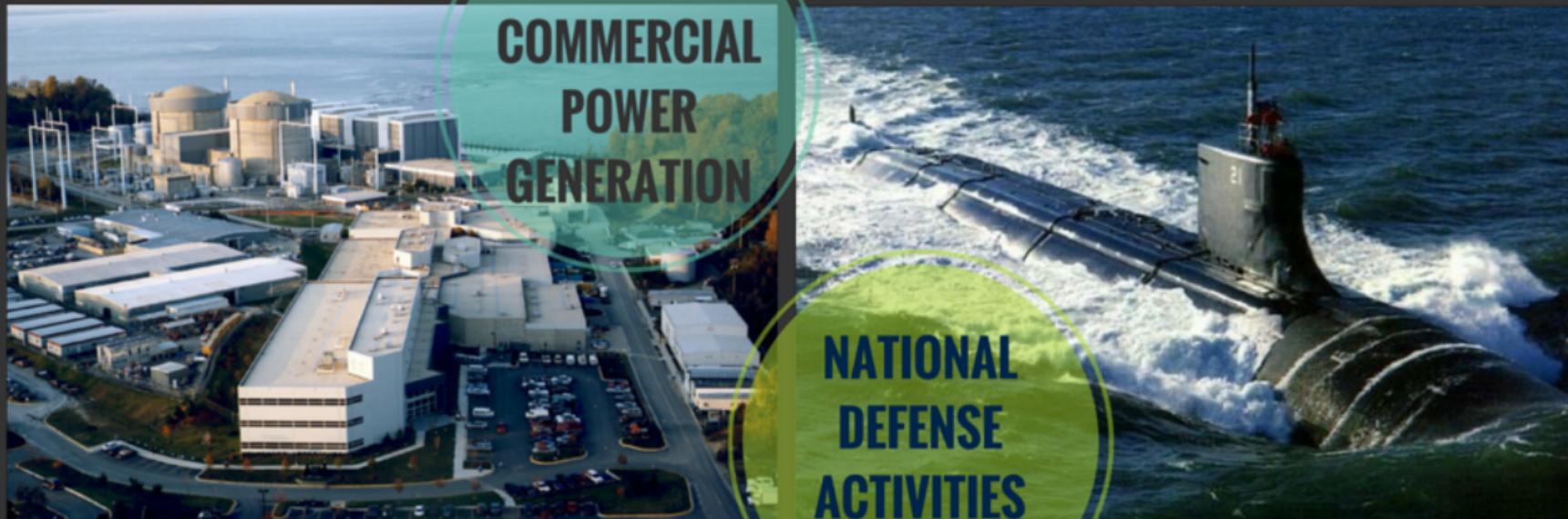


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

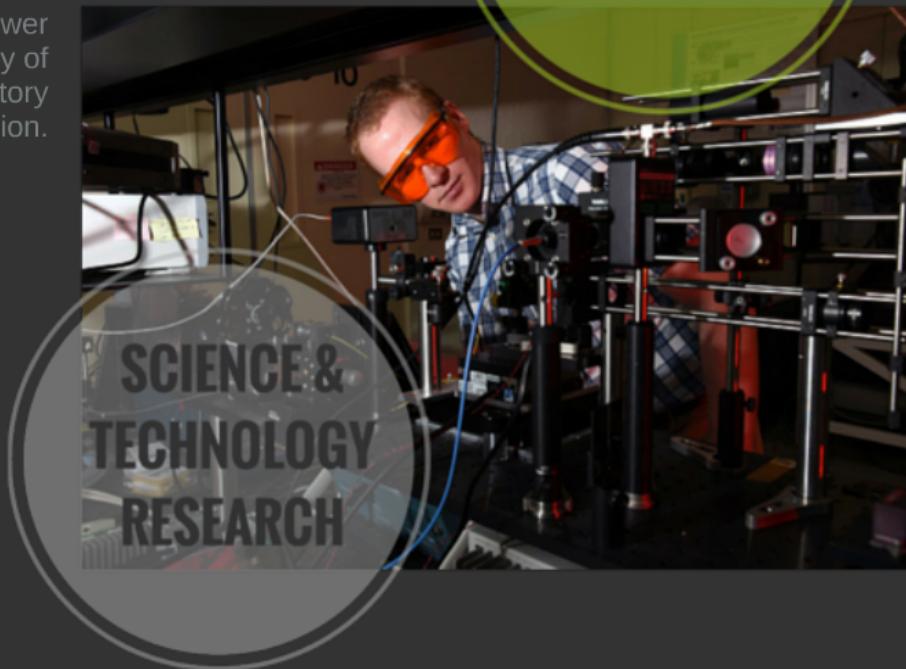
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How We Got Here



Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. Photo courtesy of Nuclear Regulatory Commission.



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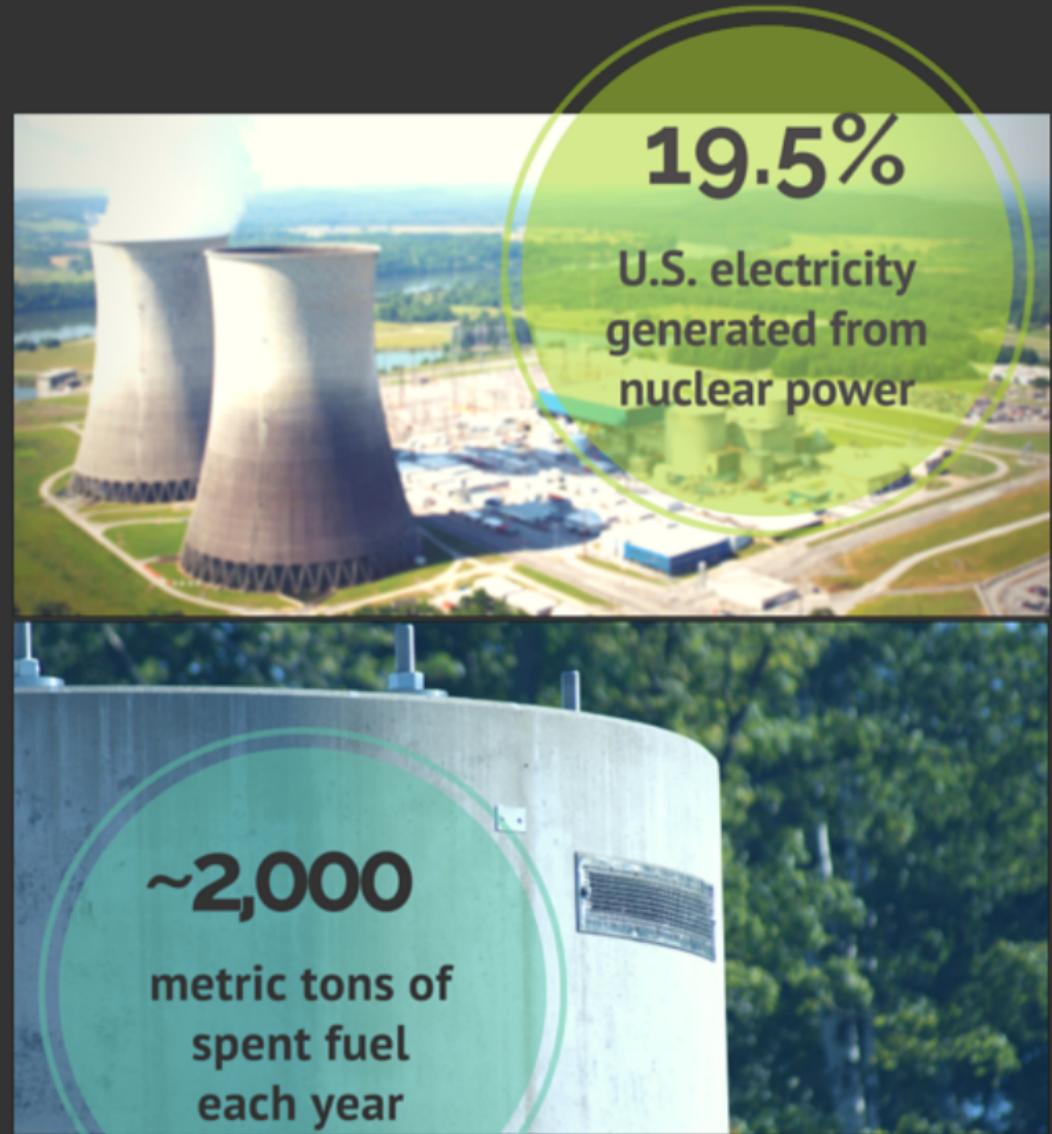
years of electricity from
nuclear power

1942

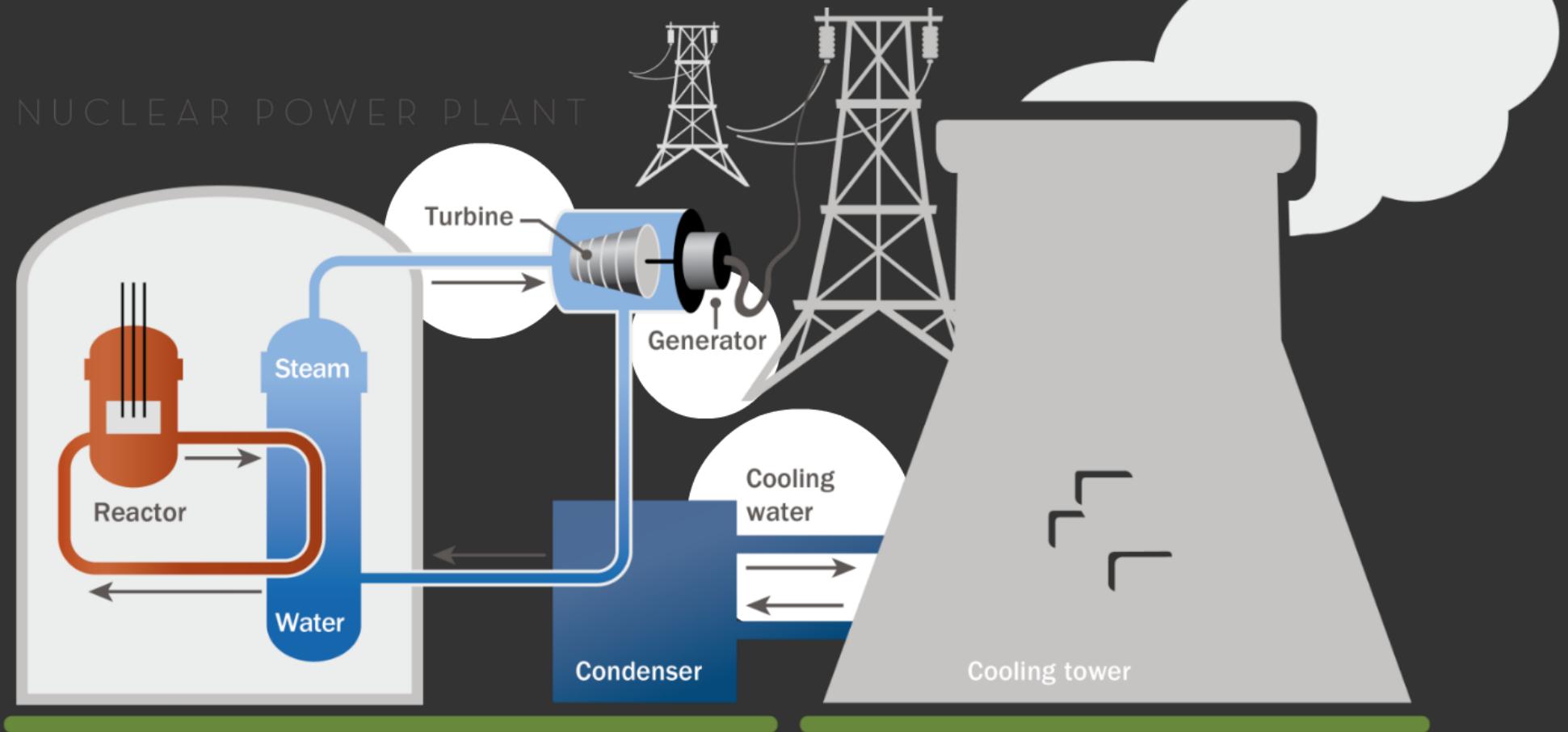
The world's first nuclear reactor operates in Chicago

1955

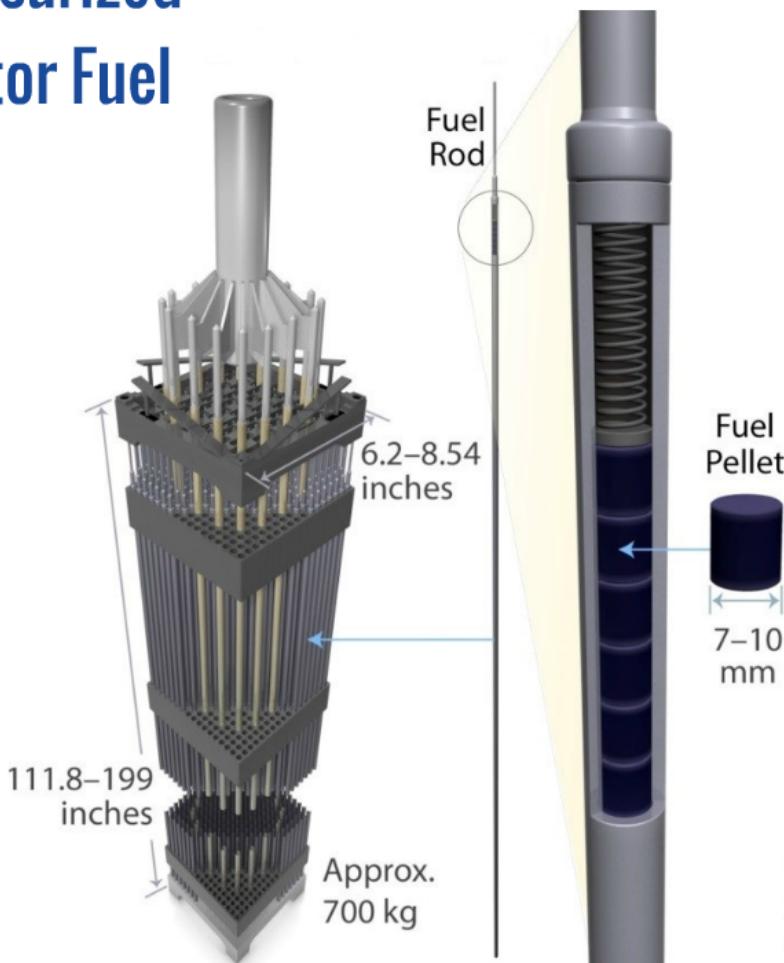
Arco, Idaho becomes first city in America powered by nuclear energy



NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



Typical Pressurized Water Reactor Fuel Assembly



ORNL 2015-G00443/aass



WET STORAGE

Spent fuel pool at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.
Photo courtesy of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.



DRY STORAGE

A dry cask loaded with spent fuel being lifted from a horizontal transporter to be placed vertically on a storage pad. Photo courtesy of Sandia National Laboratories.

Department of Energy Managed Waste



SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL

~75,000

metric tons of
uranium

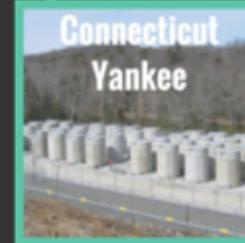
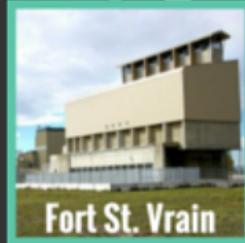
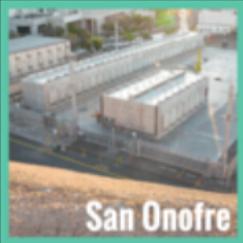
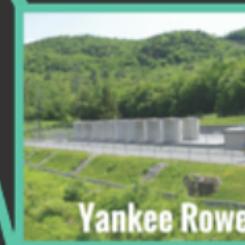
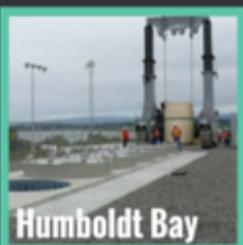
HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE

~12,000,000

cubic feet of
high-level waste



Shutdown Power Reactor Sites



WHY ACT NOW?

- The waste was created producing electricity and nuclear deterrent for our benefit
- Taxpayer liabilities are large and growing
- Government has a legal obligation to act
- Need to provide for safe, sustainable storage and disposal now to avoid leaving the problem to future generations
- We have the technology and resources to deal with the waste today



History and Our Approach

TIMELINE

DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER

1934	Enrico Fermi splits the atom and achieves the world's first nuclear fission
1942	Manhattan Project forms to build the atomic bomb for use in World War II
1945	U.S. produces first nuclear weapons
1953	U.S. launches the first nuclear-powered submarine, the U.S.S. <i>Narwhal</i>
1954	Congress passes the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, providing direction for the peaceful use of atomic energy
1955	U.S. begins using nuclear power to generate electricity

DEVELOPMENT OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL

1957	National Academy of Sciences recommends geologic disposal for disposing of nuclear waste
1970	U.S. begins a search for potential repository sites
1970	Lyons, Kansas site selected as the first national repository
1972	Government withdraws from operations at Lyons site due to technical uncertainties and public opposition

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT AND YUCCA MOUNTAIN

1982	Congress passes NWPA, establishing process for selecting a disposal site
1986	DOE recommends three sites for further study, including Yucca Mountain
1987	Congress amends NWPA, directing DOE to study only Yucca Mountain
1988-2002	DOE studies Yucca Mountain extensively
1998	DOE misses deadline to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel
FEB 2002	DOE recommends Yucca Mountain as the nation's first disposal site and President Bush submits recommendation to Congress
APR 2002	Nevada Governor Quinn submits official notice of disapproval to Congress
JUL 2002	President Bush signs joint resolution approving Yucca Mountain as repository site
2008	DOE submits license application for construction of repository to NRC
2009	Administration determines Yucca Mountain is not a workable solution. DOE suspends activities at the site

THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION AND CONSENT-BASED SITING

2010	Secretary of Energy Chu establishes the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future (BRC)
2012	BRC recommends DOE adopt a consent-based approach to siting nuclear waste facilities, including consolidated interim storage and geologic disposal sites
2013	DOE releases <i>Strategy for the Management and Disposal of Used Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste</i> based on the recommendations from the BRC
2015	Secretary of Energy Moniz announces DOE will pursue a consent-based approach to siting facilities for interim storage, as well as disposal of defense and commercial waste

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CANADA

Moving Forward Together:
Process for Selecting a
Site for Canada's Deep
Geological Repository
for Used Nuclear Fuel



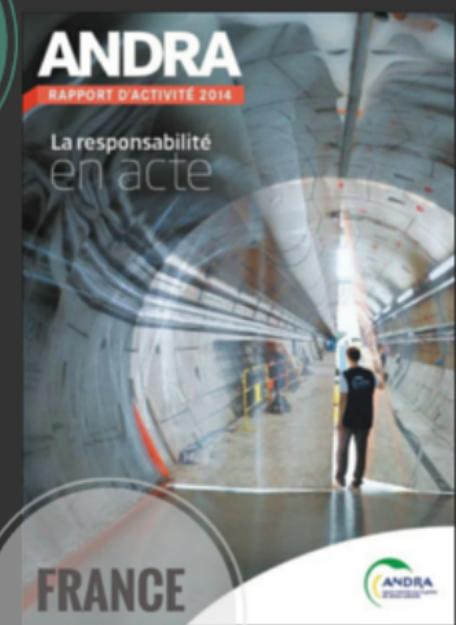
MAY 2010



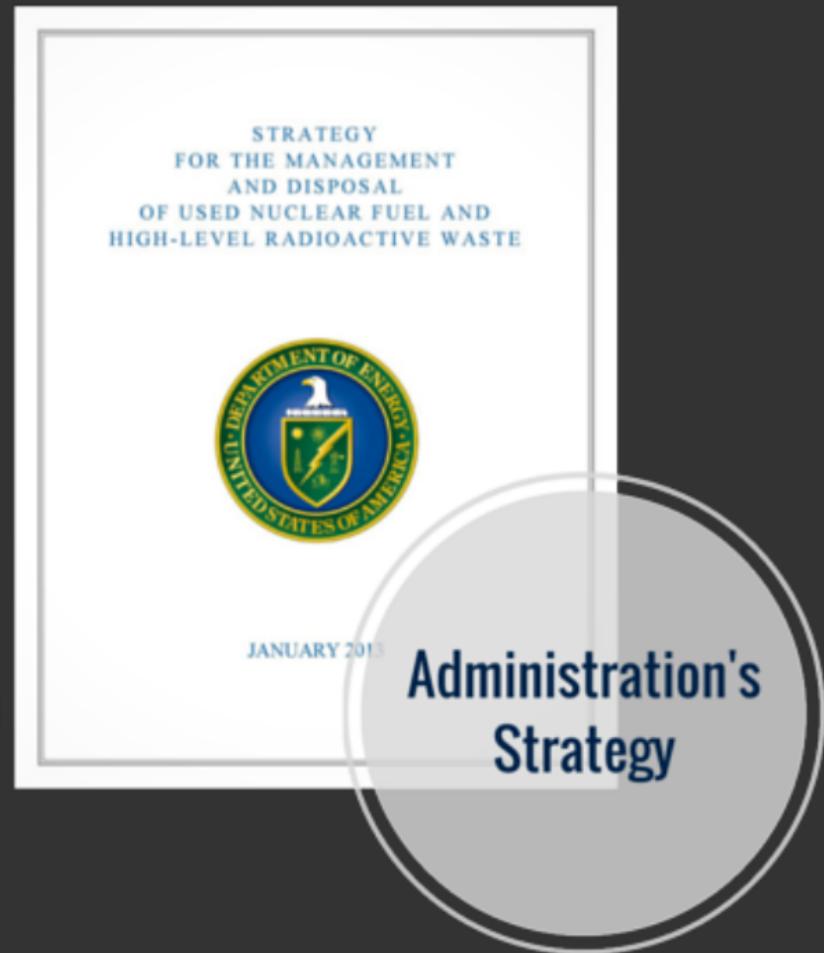
SWEDEN



FINLAND



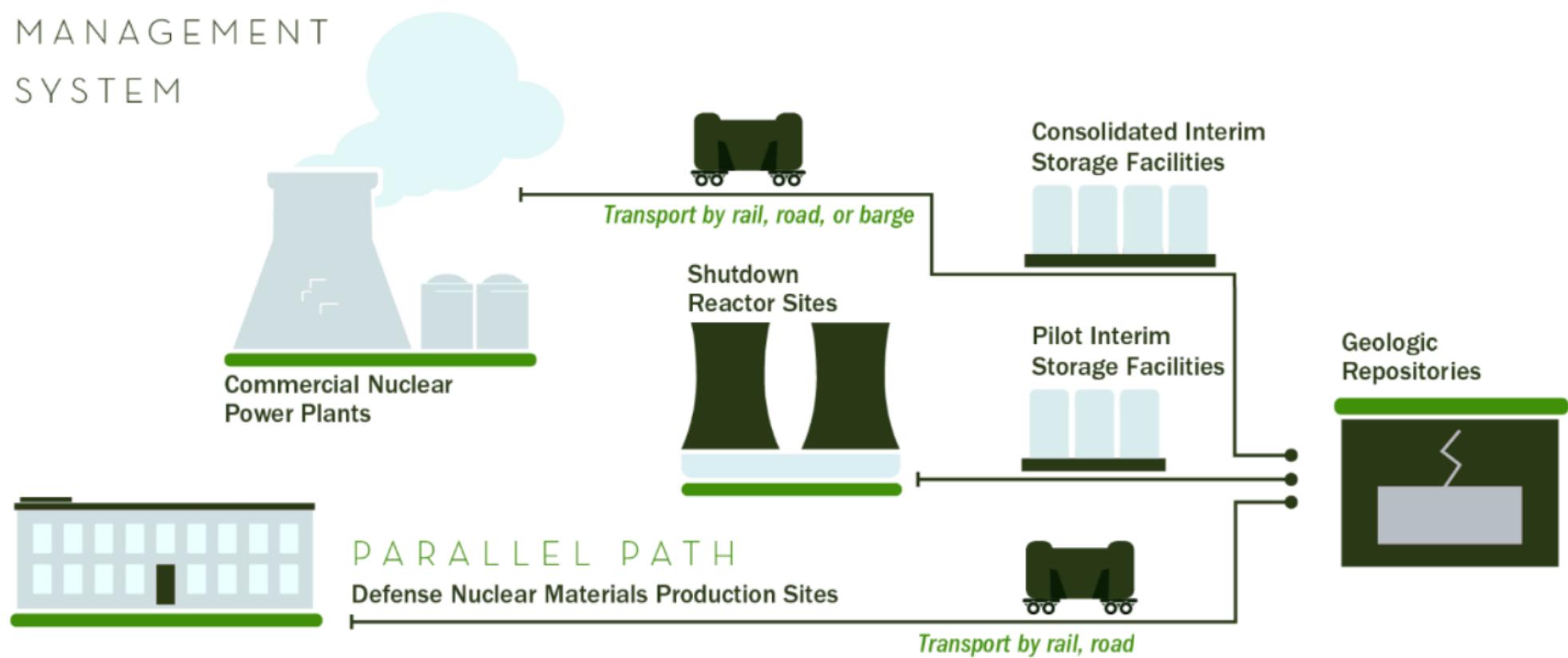
FRANCE



A photograph of a person from the waist up, wearing a virtual reality headset and holding a VR controller. They are standing on a paved path with a grassy field and a blue sky in the background. The image is partially obscured by a large, semi-transparent circular overlay.

Our Vision

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Consolidated Interim Storage Facilities



land, or barge

es

Pilot Interim Storage Facilities



Geologic
Repositories





Transport by rail, road, or barge

Shutdown Reactor Sites



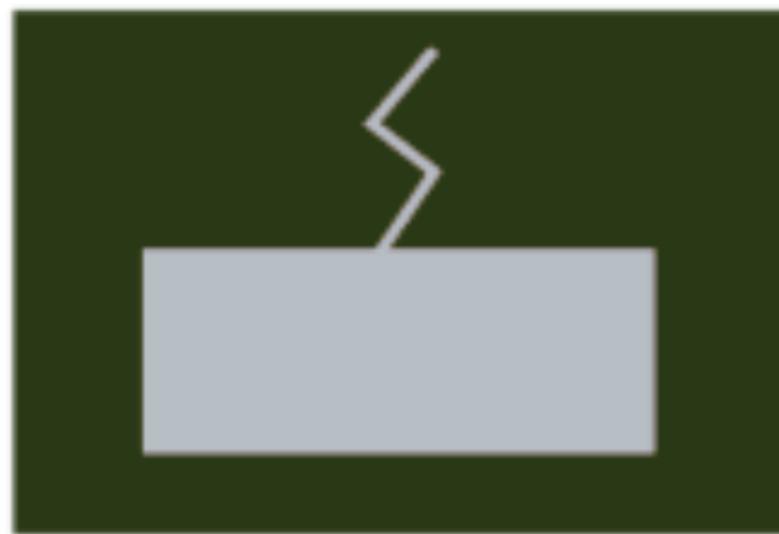
TRANSPORTATION

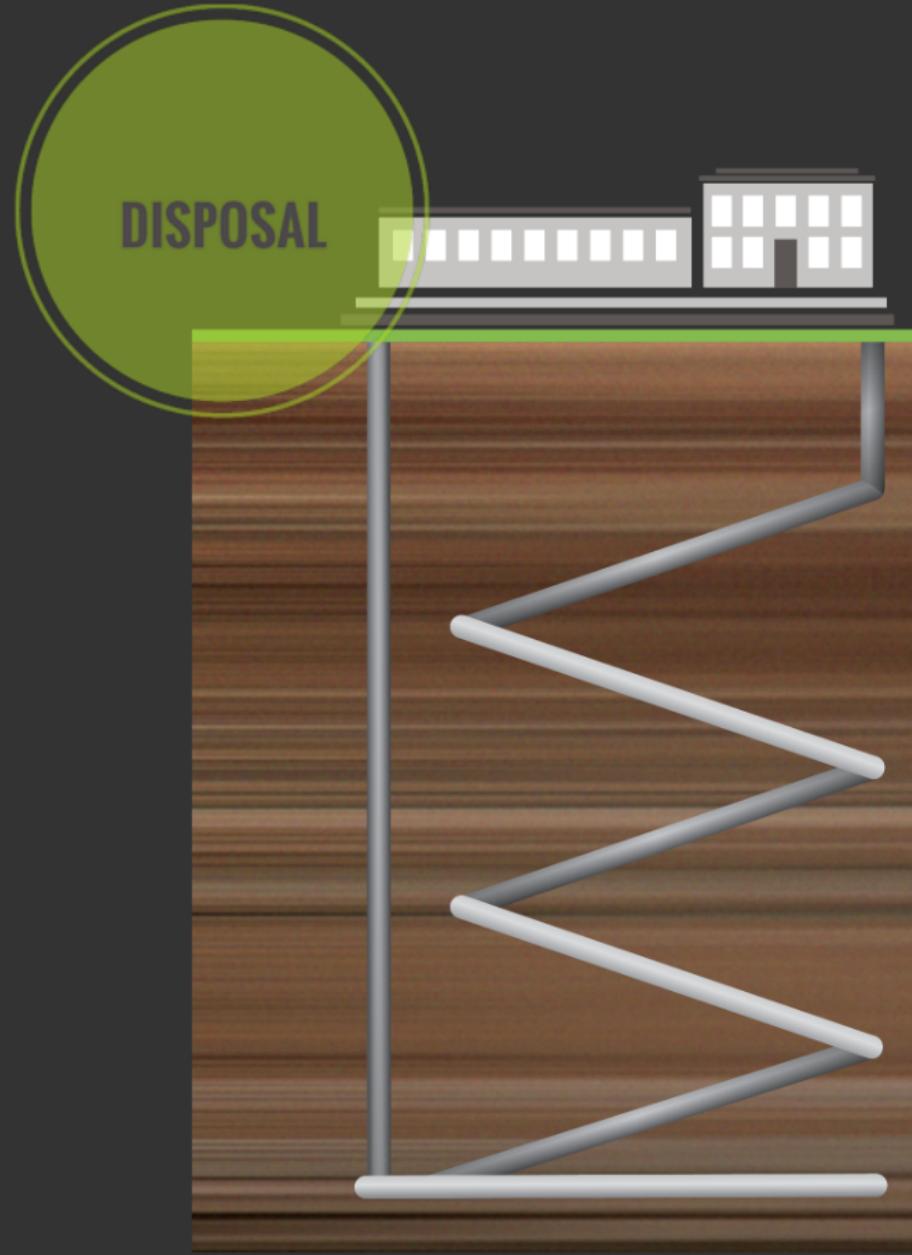


M-290 shipping container used to ship Navy spent nuclear fuel.

n
cilities

Geologic Repositories





A blurry photograph of a park scene. In the foreground, a person's arm and shoulder are visible on the left side. The middle ground shows a grassy field with a chain-link fence and a line of trees. The background is a dense line of trees under a clear sky.

The Path Forward

CONSENT-BASED SITING PROCESS

**Local
Governments**

**Tribal
Nations**

Communities

States



ensure safe and secure operations



build and maintain trust among stakeholders



adapt operations based on lessons learned

1

Engage with the public and interested parties on the elements of a consent-based siting process

2

Design a consent-based siting process to serve as a flexible framework for engaging with potential host communities

3

Use the resulting consent-based siting process to work with potential host communities



YOU
ARE
HERE

1

Engage with the public and interested parties on the elements of a consent-based siting process

- How can the Department ensure that the process for selecting a site is fair?
- What models and experience should the Department use in designing the process?
- Who should be involved in the process for selecting a site, and what is their role?
- What information and resources do you think would facilitate your participation?
- What else should be considered?



Invit

you
ation?



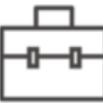
Invitation for Public Comment
in the Federal Register



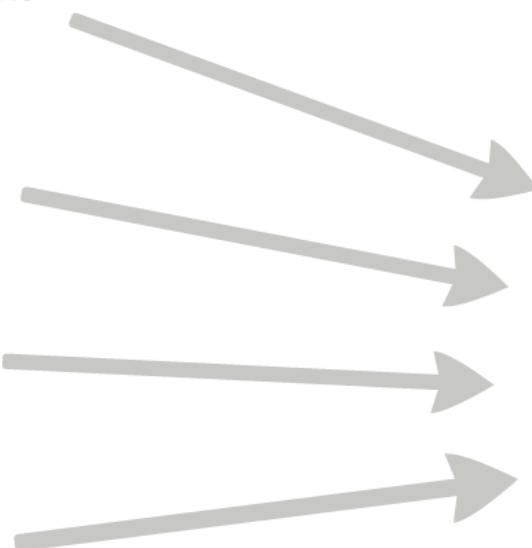
Public meetings hosted
across the country



Public webinars or
conference calls



Meetings with stakeholders
and groups by request



Summary report for
public review and
comment

2

Design a consent-based siting process to serve as a flexible framework for engaging with potential host communities



Draft a consent-based siting process based on public input



Issue preliminary siting considerations to provide a baseline for siting discussions





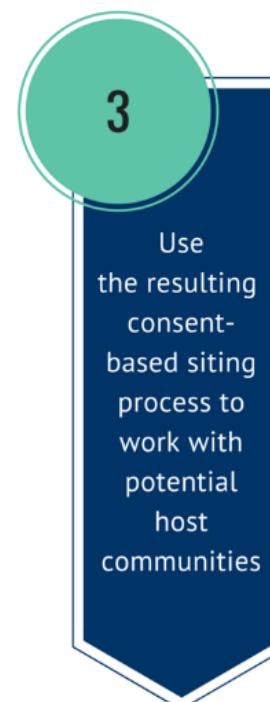
Proposed funding
opportunity announcement
for interested communities
to seek information on
consent-based siting

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Proposed funding opportunity announcement for interested communities to seek information on consent-based siting



GET INVOLVED!

Visit

energy.gov/consentbasedsiting

Email

consentbasedsiting@hq.doe.gov