

# **Greater-Than-Class C (GTCC) and Transuranic Waste Disposal**

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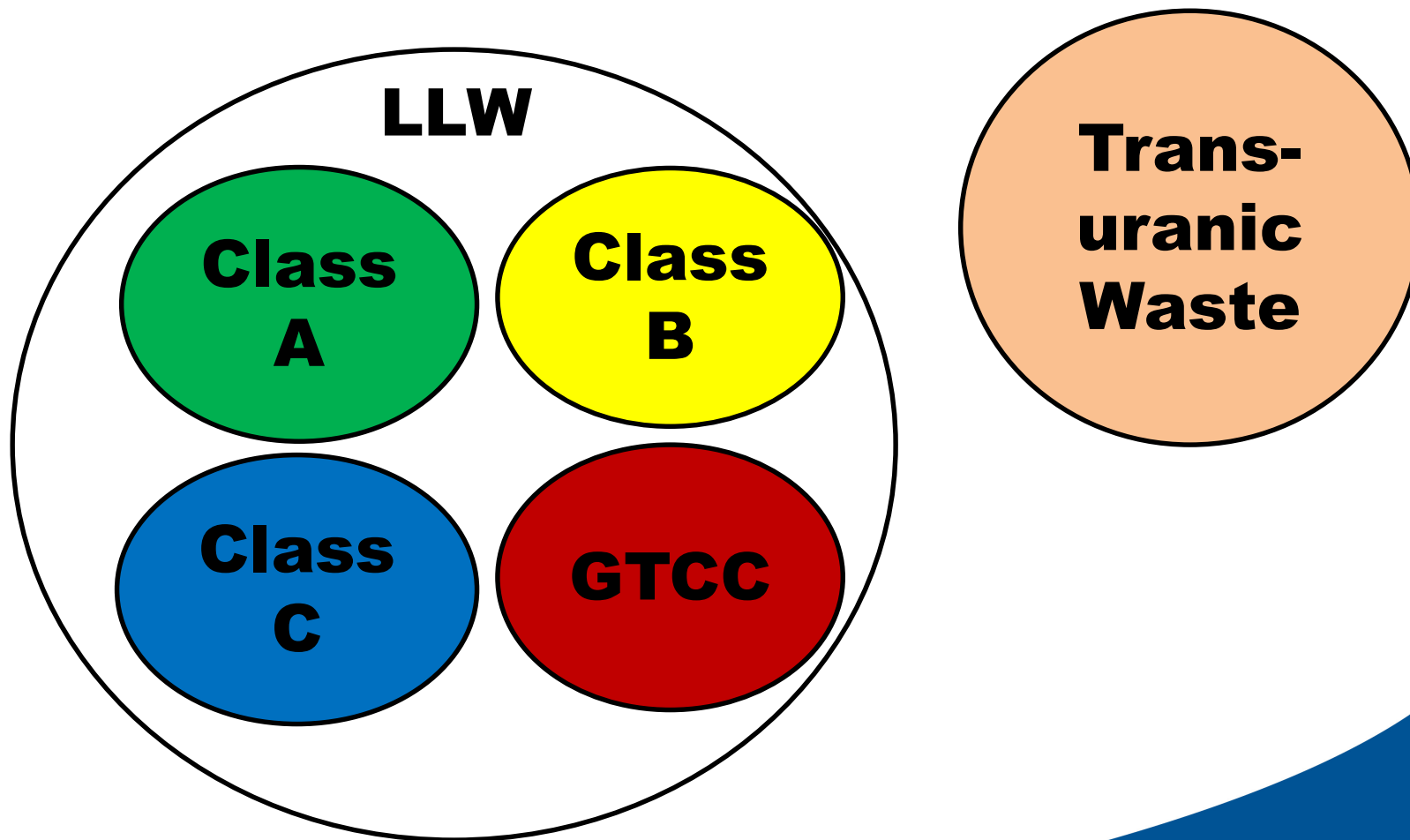
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# Purpose of Meeting

- Stakeholder participation and involvement
- Identification of various technical issues
- Assist in the development of a regulatory basis for the disposal of GTCC and TRU wastes
- Supports NRC's openness strategies and cumulative effects of regulation initiatives


# Low-Level Waste (LLW) and Transuranic Waste



# Regulatory Basis for GTCC and Transuranic Wastes

- SECY-15-0094 – Texas request for clarification on Agreement State authority to regulate GTCC
- SRM-SECY-15-0094 - prepare a regulatory basis for the disposal of GTCC waste through means other than deep geologic disposal
- Address transuranic waste in 10 CFR 61.2 “Definitions”
- SRM-SECY-16-0106 – due 6 months after publication of Part 61 supplemental proposed rule

# Next Steps



**Complete  
Part 61  
Supplemental  
Proposed  
Rule**

**Prepare  
Regulatory  
Basis with  
Public  
Workshops**

**Potential  
Part 61  
Rule for  
GTCC and  
Transuranic  
Waste  
Disposal**

# Draft Technical Analysis

- Assist in the identification of potential hazards, for example
  - inventories
  - security
- Assist public to respond to NRC staff questions

## Three categories of GTCC waste:

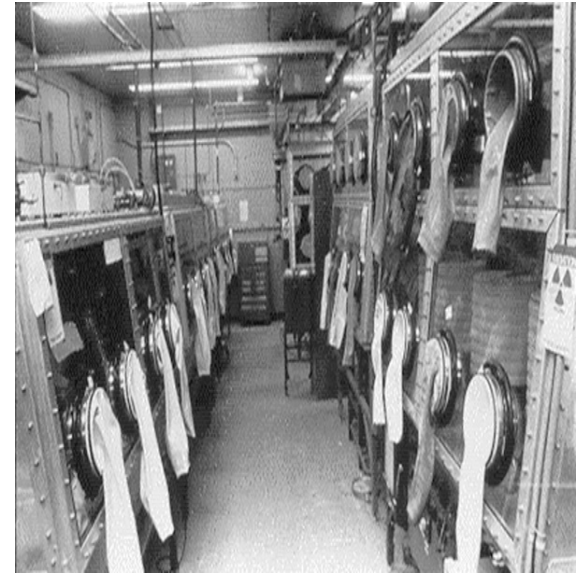
- **activated metals, sealed sources, and other waste**



**Reactor  
Vessels**



**Sealed  
Sources**



**Glove Boxes**

# Activated Metals

- Metal components from nuclear reactors are most significant source
- Surface contamination on metal surfaces
- Activated radionuclides throughout metal
- Short-lived radionuclides generate heat
- Some transuranic radionuclides present in surface contamination



# Sealed Sources

- Irradiators typically used in medical applications (e.g., hospitals, universities, research)
  - short lived sources (Cs-137 – 30 year half-life)
  - transuranic radionuclides (e.g., Pu isotopes)
- Fissile radionuclides present (Pu-239)
- Short-lived radionuclides generate heat

# **‘Other’ Waste**

- Variety of potential sources, for example:
  - potential exhumation of West Valley waste
  - production of radioisotopes for nuclear imaging procedures (e.g., Mo-99 production)
- Fissile radionuclides present from Mo-99 production (e.g., Pu-239)

# GTCC Technical Considerations

- Thermal Output
- Gas Generation
- Fissile Material
- Long-lived Daughter (Progeny)

# Radionuclides of Potential Interest based on Draft Analysis (**depends on analysis assumptions**)

Hazard	Activated Metals (Commercial Reactors)		Sealed Sources		Other Waste (Mo-99 Production)	
	500 yrs	5,000 yrs	500 yrs	5,000 yrs	500 yrs	5,000 yrs
Off-site Dose	Pu-239	Pu-239	Am-241, Pu-239 Cs-137	Pu-239, Am-241	Pu-239	Pu-239
Thermal Output	Ni-63	None	Am-241	None	None	None
Fissile Material	None	None	Pu-239	Pu-239	U-235	U-235
Gas Generation	Ni-63	None	Am-241	None	None	None
Intruder Dose (shallow)	C-14, Ni-59, Nb-94, Ni-63	C-14, Ni-59, Nb-94, Ni-63	Am-241	Pu-239	Pu-238, Pu-239, Pu-240, Am-241	Pu-238, Pu-240
Intruder Dose (deep)	None	None	Am-241	Pu-239	None	None

# Three Questions

- 1) What are the important radionuclides that need to be considered for the disposal of the GTCC and transuranic wastes?
- 2) How might GTCC and transuranic wastes affect the safety and security of a disposal facility during operations (i.e., pre-closure period)?
- 3) How might GTCC and transuranic wastes affect disposal facility design for post-closure safety including protection of an inadvertent intruder?

# Stakeholder Outreach and Involvement

- Updated information on GTCC and transuranic wastes found on NRC Website:

<https://www.nrc.gov/waste/llw-disposal/llw-pa/gtcc-transuranic-waste-disposal.html>

- *Federal Register* Notice to Conduct GTCC and Transuranic Waste Scoping Meeting and Request for Comment (83 FR 6475): Feb. 14, 2018

# How to Provide Comments

- *Federal Register* notice (83 FR 6475) provides various methods of submitting comments:
  - Federal Rulemaking Website:  
Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2017-0081
  - Email comments: [Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov](mailto:Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov)
  - Fax comments: 301-415-1101
  - Mail comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff
  - Hand deliver comments: 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EST) Federal workdays; telephone: 301-415-1677.

**Comment period ends April 16, 2018**

# For Additional Information:

- Federal Rulemaking Website:  
Go to <http://www.regulations> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2017-0081**
- NRC's Public Web Site for GTCC<https://www.nrc.gov/waste/llw-disposal/llw-pa/gtcc-transuranic-waste-disposal.html>
- NRC Contacts:
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# Questions?

