Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel

What We Regulate

There are two acceptable storage methods for spent fuel after it is removed from the reactor core:

- **Spent Fuel Pools** - Currently, most spent nuclear fuel is safely stored in specially designed pools at individual reactor sites around the country.
- **Dry Cask Storage** - If pool capacity is reached, licensees may move toward use of above-ground dry storage casks.

How We Regulate

The NRC regulates spent fuel through a combination of regulatory requirements, licensing; safety oversight, including inspection, assessment of performance; and enforcement; operational experience evaluation; and regulatory support activities. For general information, see the How We Regulate page. For details, see the following:

- Regulations, Guidance, and Communications
- Licensing
- Oversight
- Public Involvement

Related Information

- Radioactive Waste: Production, Storage, Disposal (NUREG/BR-0216)
- Materials Safeguards and Threat Assessment
- Transportation of Spent Nuclear Fuel
- Locations of Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations
- Dry Spent Fuel Storage Designs: NRC Approved for General Use
- Nuclear Fuel Pool Capacity
- Diablo Canyon ISFSI License Application

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