# PERSPECTIVE ON HIGH-LEVEL WASTE MANAGEMENT

Commissioner William C. Ostendorff United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Waste Management Symposium

International Strategic and Operational Management of Used Nuclear Fuel Panel March 19, 2015

Phoenix, AZ



Protecting People and the Environment

#### Agenda



- Current Waste Issues
  - Consolidated Storage
  - High-Level Waste disposal
- Conclusion

## **Continued Storage Rule**



- Continued Storage Rule
  - Replaces and expands upon the Commission's Waste Confidence Rule Decision
- 2012 Court Mandate
- Findings
  - Can be stored in dry casks onsite indefinitely

# Consolidated Interim Storage



- Impact on addressing permanent disposal
- NRC is prepared to receive license applications



### Yucca Mountain Safety Evaluation Report



- Volume 1 General Information
- Volume 2 Repository Safety Before Permanent Closure
- Volume 3 Repository Safety After Permanent Closure
- Volume 4 Administrative and Programmatic Requirements
- Volume 5 Proposed Conditions on the Construction Authorization and Probable Subjects of License Specifications

## NRC Actions Regarding Yucca Mountain Review



- Current Actions
  - NRC will supplement the DOE's EIS
  - NRC will make all of the documents available to the parties
- Future Actions
  - Adjudication
  - Final Commission
    Review



#### The Future of a High-Level Waste Repository



- 2012 Blue Ribbon Commission
- 2013 DOE Strategy
- Congressional Action



#### Conclusion



- Continued Storage Rule is in place
- NRC is prepared to review a consolidated storage application
- NRC's review of the DOE application for the Yucca Mountain repository is complete
- NRC staff is supplementing the DOE EIS
- Congressional action is needed



Thank You

