



U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management



# Rail Topic Group Update

Presented to:  
**Transportation External Coordination Working Group**

Presented by:  
**Jay Jones**  
**Office of National Transportation**

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**Pueblo, CO**

# Summary

- **Summary of Previous Transportation External Coordination (TEC) Rail Topic Group meeting**
- **Summary of meeting with rail industry**
- **Proposed Topic Group activities**
- **Current issues and next steps**



# Summary Previous TEC Rail Topic Group Meeting

- **Request the Office of National Transportation to wait for SRGs to submit individual routing recommendations**
- **Update from SRGs on their routing process**
- **Topic Group recommendations:**
  - **Identified the need for Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Association of American Railroads (AAR) to provide input into the process**
  - **Determine the appropriate number for a suite of routes**
  - **Integrate SRGs input on routing criteria**



# Summary of Meeting with Rail Industry

- **Meeting held on August 30th to discuss Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) rail routing process**
- **Purpose**
  - **Provide overview of the OCRWM Program and transportation planning**
  - **Define and discuss information needs to develop effective routing process**
- **Objectives**
  - **Obtain feedback from rail industry regarding operating policies**
  - **Identify practices and constraints on rail shipments**
  - **Validate assumptions on rail routing considerations**



# Summary of Meeting with Rail Industry

(cont.)

- **Productive meeting allowing discussion among participants on various routing issues**
- **Upcoming interactions**
  - **Potential for future meetings with DOE, SRGs, and railroad companies**
  - **Further discussions on potential routes with railroad industry input on operational considerations**
  - **Comparison of potential national routes with regional routes**



# Rail Topic Group Proposed Activities

- **Preference of activities to be addressed by Topic Group**
  - **Inspections (States and Tribes)**
  - **Escorts**
  - **Tracking and radiation monitoring**
  - **Rail planning process, protocols, and guidance**



# Current Issues/Next Steps for Rail Topic Group

- **Develop group consensus on activities for task plan**
- **Prioritize the order for addressing the activities**
- **Develop, revise, and finalize the task plan for the Rail Topic Group**
- **Receive input from SRGs on their specific rail routing analysis exercise at upcoming fall meetings**

