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Management Program for Sustainable Transportation of Used Fuel

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A sustainable Transportation Used Fuel program could be shortly defined as a not eventful program that you rarely hear about because it is run smoothly with no or minor events. However, used fuel transports are inherently complex due to the nature of the material and the high visibility. It requires a large range of expertise, specialized assets, public acceptance and extremely high performance between the numerous stakeholders to ensure a smooth coordination. As of today, only a few countries have developed comprehensive used fuel transportation program. In the many countries where interim consolidated storage, recycling or geological repository are not available yet, a similar program will have to be implemented.

For more than 50 years Orano TN has safely shipped more than 7,000 used fuel transport casks. The transportation program that was initially developed in the 1970s has been adapted and enhanced over the years to meet more restrictive regulatory requirements and evolving customer needs, and to address public concerns. The numerous “lessons learned” have offered data and guidance that have allowed for also efficient and consistent improvement over the decades...

Based on Orano TN extensive expertise, this paper will describe the different phases and milestones that need to be met to set up, license and operate a successful used fuel transportation management program. Transportation of used fuel in France is performed effectively and efficiently thanks to strong collaboration with the Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) operator who plays a critical role as the shipper.

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Country or International Organization

France

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