Spent Fuel Project Office Part 71 and Current Activities

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Overview

- SFPO Responsibilities
- 10 CFR Part 71 rulemaking
- SFPO current initiatives and status

Spent Fuel Project Office Responsibilities

- Certify cask designs for spent fuel storage and/or transport
- Certify transport packages for other radioactive materials
- Assist DOT in regulating transport of radioactive materials (including IAEA Interface)
- Approve quality assurance programs
- Inspect transport and storage cask fabrication and use

10 CFR Part 71 Rulemaking

- Rulemaking to incorporate IAEA TSR-1 and other considerations identified by the NRC
  - Scheduled to be concurrent with DOT rulemaking on 49 CFR Parts 171-178

10 CFR 71 Rulemaking

Milestones

- March 2001 - draft proposed rule package sent to the Commission for approval
- Spring 2002 - publish proposed rule concurrent with DOT
- Fall 2002 rule effective date

10 CFR Part 71 Rulemaking

Significant changes

- Changes for dual purpose spent fuel storage and transport casks
- Resolve petition on double containment of plutonium
- Mechanism to review special packages without need for an exemption
- Grandfathering previously approved packages

SFPO Current Initiatives and Status

- Process improvements
- Challenges

Improvements in Package Design Review Process

- Establish priorities
- Establish rules of engagement
- Publish standard review plans
- Issue interim staff guidance when needed

Priority System

- Priority 1 Operational safety
- Priority 2 Maintain operational capability at operating reactor sites
- Priority 3 Support decommissioning facilities
- Priority 4 Other budgeted activities
- Priority 5 Unbudgeted activities

Rules of Engagement

- We will not review incomplete applications
- Applicant to identify all deviations from SRP
- One request for additional information permitted
- We will not review incomplete RAI responses
- If applicant misses due date, entire review will be rescheduled

Standard Review Plans for Transportation

- Transport packages for spent fuel (NUREG 1617)
- Transportation packages for radioactive material (NUREG 1609)

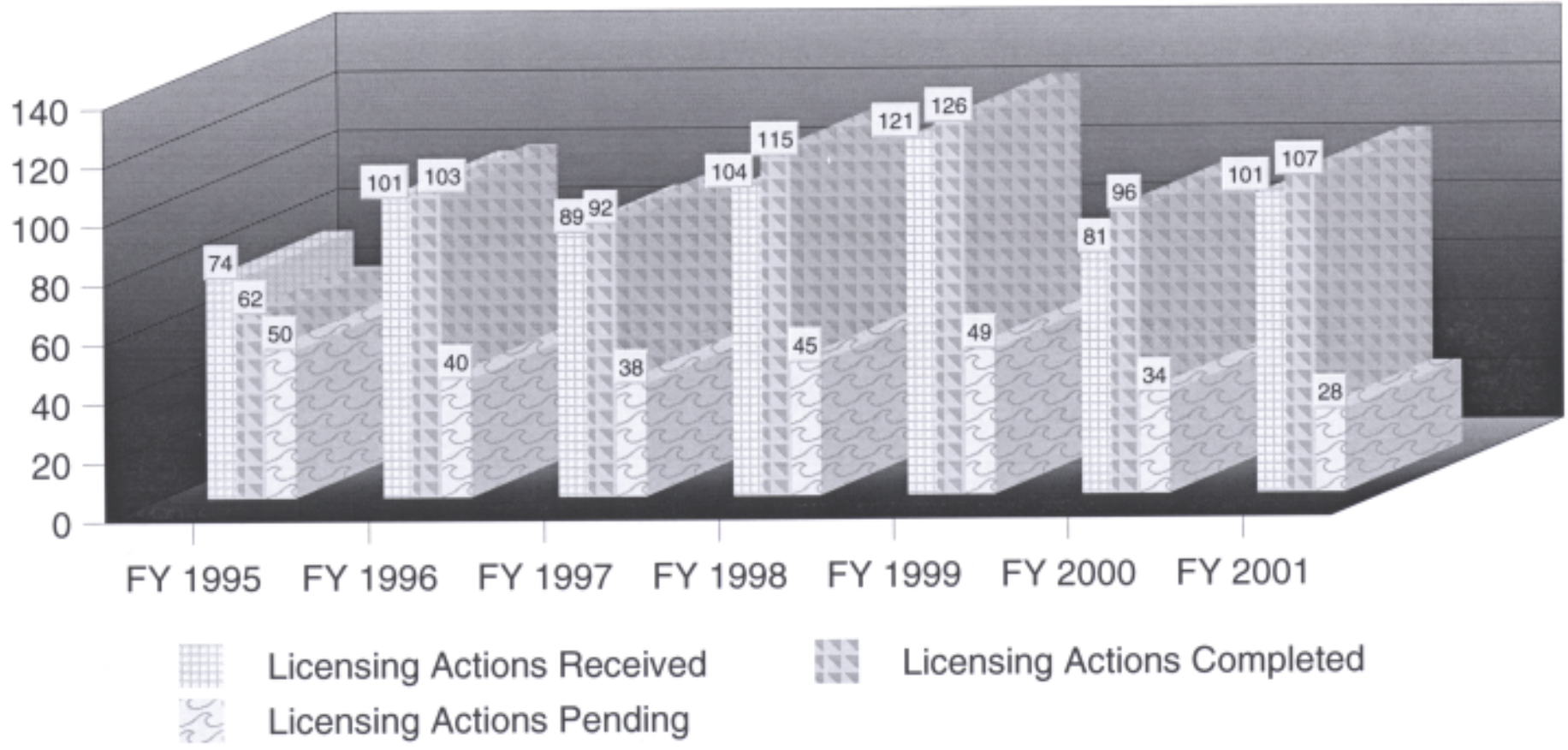
Interim Staff Guidance

- Addresses emergent review issues in a timely manner
- Provides for immediate use by staff and applicants
- Eventually incorporated into SRPs

Challenges

- Impacts due to September 11 events
- Growing demand for storage and transportation reviews
- Increased complexity of casework
- Limited resources
- Stakeholder involvement

Part 71 Licensing Actions



Summary

- Revisions to 10 CFR Part 71
- Process Improvements
- Key challenges