



# **Briefing on Waste Confidence**

**NRC Staff Presentation  
March 21, 2014**

# Waste Confidence Activities

2012

2013

2014

Scoping for  
GEIS (Generic  
Environmental  
Impact  
Statement)

Develop Draft  
GEIS and  
Proposed Rule



Public  
Comment

Develop Final  
GEIS and  
Final Rule



# Open Government

- **Transparency**
  - **Diverse communication tools**
- **Participation**
  - **Written Comments**
  - **Public Meetings**
  - **Open Houses**
- **Collaboration**



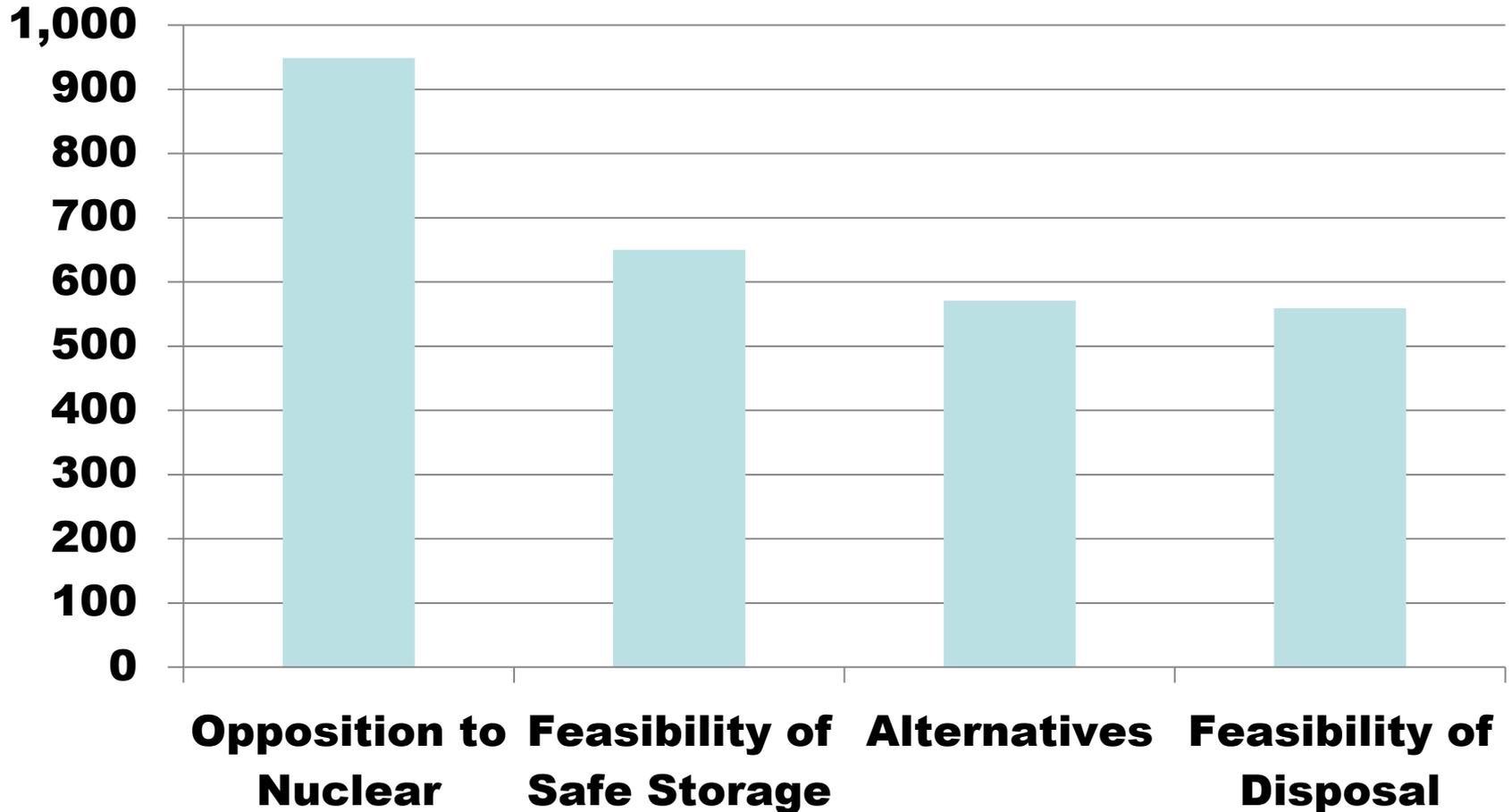
# **Public Outreach – Lessons Learned**

- **Successes**
  - **Dedicated Communication Team**
  - **Open-House Opportunities**
  - **Facilitated Telephone Call-in Opportunities**
- **Challenges**
  - **Web-based “Chat”**

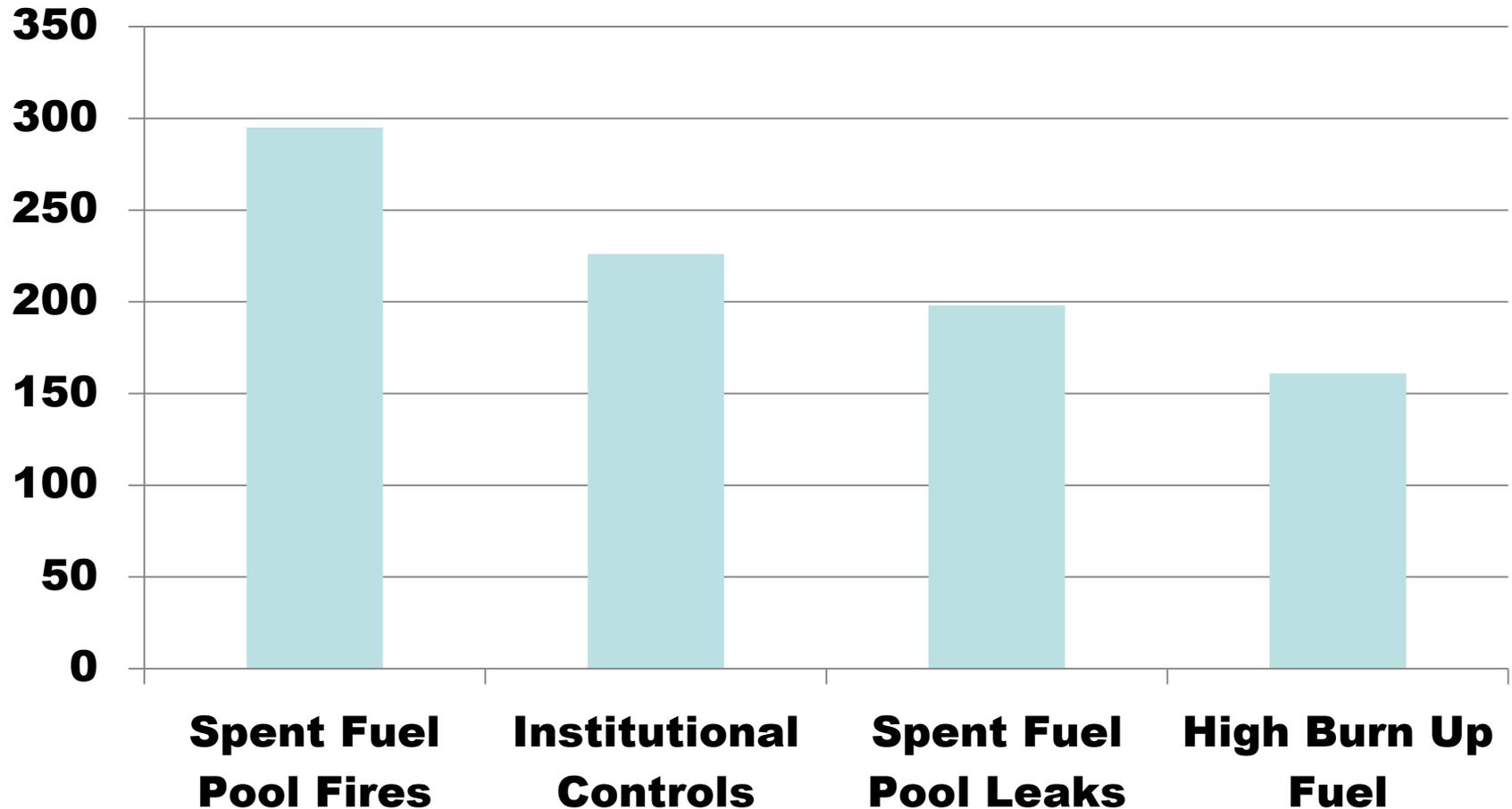
# **Results – Proposed Rule**

- **Nearly 9,000 Unique Comments**
- **Public Meetings:**
  - **> 1400 participants; ~ 500 Transcribed statements**
- **Written Comments:**
  - **~ 33,000 Submittals; ~ 1500 Unique Submittals**

# Most Common Topics



# Example High-Interest Topics



# **Public Input to Policy Issues**

- **Solicited in *Federal Register***
- **Summarized in “Waste Confidence - Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel Proposed Rule: Public Feedback on Specific Issues”**
  - **(SECY-14-0025, Feb 28, 2014)**

# Issue 1

- **Whether specific policy statements regarding the timeline for repository availability should be removed from the rule text.**

## **Issue 2**

- **Whether a specific policy statement regarding safety of continued storage should be made in the rule text.**

## **Issue 3**

- **Whether the Discussion portion (Section III) of the Statements of Consideration should be streamlined by removing content that is repeated from the draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement.**

# Issue 4

- **Whether the title of the rule should be changed in light of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement being issued instead of a separate Waste Confidence Decision.**

# **Path Forward**

- **Complete Comment Resolution**
- **Recommend Draft GEIS and Draft Final Rule to Commission in Summer 2014**
- **Publish in Fall 2014**

# **Waste Confidence Directorate**

- **Formed – September 6, 2012**
- **Full Time Staff:**
  - **7 offices within NRC**
- **Contract Support:**
  - **Pacific Northwest National Laboratories**
  - **Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses**

# Other High-Interest Topics

