



**UNITED STATES**  
**NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD**  
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300  
Arlington, VA 22201-3367

*April 7, 2021*  
*For Immediate Release*

*Bret W. Leslie*  
*External Affairs*

**U.S. NWTRB to Hold Public Meeting on U.S. DOE Management Approach  
for Advanced Nuclear Fuels Including Accident Tolerant Fuels**

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) will hold a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, and Thursday, May 13, 2021, to review information on the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) activities to evaluate advanced nuclear fuels including accident tolerant fuels for light water reactors and the impact of these fuels on spent nuclear fuel management and disposal. The Board is an independent federal agency established by Congress to conduct ongoing technical and scientific evaluation of activities undertaken by DOE to manage and dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

Details for viewing and participating in the meeting will be available on the Board's website ([www.nwtrb.gov](http://www.nwtrb.gov)) approximately one week before the meeting.

The meeting will begin on both days at 12:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) and is scheduled to adjourn at approximately 5:00 p.m. EDT. On the first day, speakers representing the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy and the national laboratories conducting the work for DOE will report on DOE's activities to support and evaluate these fuels both prior to, and after, their use in nuclear reactors. Speakers will describe DOE's program; including its purpose, scope, goals, and technical approach for obtaining information that may be needed for managing the advanced nuclear fuels and accident tolerant fuels once removed from the reactors and disposing of the SNF. A representative from the nuclear industry will also discuss efforts to develop new metallic fuel for light water reactors. Speakers from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will describe their plans and progress to assess the regulatory implications of accident tolerant fuels and their potential impact on storage, transportation and disposal. On the second day, speakers from Switzerland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom will describe their respective efforts to address the introduction and use of advanced nuclear fuels including accident tolerant fuels for light water reactors and the impact of these fuels on spent nuclear fuel management and disposal. The meeting will end with a panel discussion of speakers from both days of the

meeting. A detailed meeting agenda will be available on the Board's website at [www.nwtrb.gov](http://www.nwtrb.gov) approximately one week before the meeting.

The meeting will be open to the public, and opportunities for public comment will be provided at the end of each day of the meeting. Details on how to submit public comments during the meeting will be provided on our website. A time limit on comments may be set. However, written comments of any length may be submitted to the Board staff by mail or electronic mail. All comments received in writing will be included in the meeting record, which will be posted on the Board's website after the meeting. An archived recording of the meeting will be available on the Board's website following the meeting. The transcript of the meeting will be available on the Board's website by July 12, 2021.

The Board was established in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 as an independent federal agency in the Executive Branch to evaluate the technical and scientific validity of DOE activities related to the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste and to provide objective expert advice to Congress and the Secretary of Energy on these issues. Board members are experts in their fields and are appointed to the Board by the President from a list of candidates submitted by the National Academy of Sciences. The Board reports its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to Congress and the Secretary of Energy. All Board reports, correspondence, congressional testimony, and meeting transcripts and related materials are posted on the Board's website.

For information on the meeting agenda, contact Bret Leslie at [leslie@nwtrb.gov](mailto:leslie@nwtrb.gov) or by phone 703-235-9132; or Jo Jo Lee at [lee@nwtrb.gov](mailto:lee@nwtrb.gov) or by phone 703-235-4485. For information on logistics, or to request copies of the meeting agenda or transcript, contact Davonya Barnes at [barnes@nwtrb.gov](mailto:barnes@nwtrb.gov) or by phone 703-235-9141. All three may be reached by mail at 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300, Arlington, VA 22201-3367; or by fax at 703-235-4495.

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