

# COLLABORATIVE SITING

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND U.S. GOVERNMENT PROJECTS



## >>> THE OPPORTUNITY

In early 2021, the Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy, built the foundations of an important community-centered project. Ultimately, this initiative known as Collaborative Siting is designed to help DOE secure equitable solutions for handling the nation's used nuclear fuel and siting new storage facilities. By design, the process is consent-based and therefore prioritizes the needs of the people and communities in which these facilities will be located.

For this used nuclear fuel storage project that centers on community, equity and environmental justice, DOE chose Clear Strategy Partners to join them at the start and we still support this project today.



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## >>> THE CLEAR STRATEGY

Clear Strategy Partners helped create and shape much of DOE's public-facing materials for its new Collaborative Siting initiative and employed a combination of PR strategies. To help DOE hone the Collaborative Siting brand identity, we called on our designers and writers to ensure our content aligned with DOE's vision and appealed to their intended target audiences for the initiative. While developing brand guidelines, graphics, online shareables and 3-D deliverables, we cultivated and developed an engaging narrative with both desirable narratives and visuals. Additionally, we partnered with DOE to help create an online information and educational product using a program called StoryMaps.

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# Layered Protection for Safe Transportation









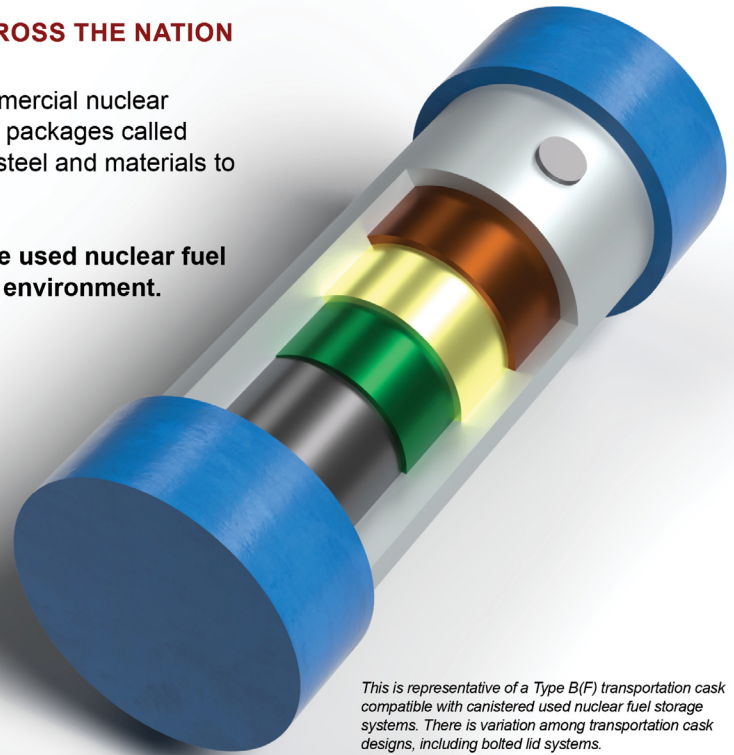
U.S. DEPARTMENT  
of ENERGY

## GUARDING THE WELL-BEING OF COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION

DOE's Atlas railcar will transport used nuclear fuel from commercial nuclear power plants. Used nuclear fuel is transported in specialized packages called "casks." Transportation casks are made from thick layers of steel and materials to shield the radiation emitted from the used nuclear fuel<sup>1</sup>.

During normal conditions of transport, radiation from the used nuclear fuel does not contaminate or accumulate in the surrounding environment.

-  Impact limiters
-  Overpack shell
-  Used nuclear fuel canister
-  Gamma shield shell
-  Gamma shielding
-  Neutron shielding



<sup>1</sup> The term "used nuclear fuel" is intended to be synonymous with the term "spent nuclear fuel" as used and defined in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, and the Standard Contract for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and/or High-Level Radioactive Waste (10 CFR Part 961).

This is representative of a Type B(F) transportation cask compatible with canistered used nuclear fuel storage systems. There is variation among transportation cask designs, including bolted lid systems.

## >>> THE RESULTS

For DOE's Collaborative Siting program, we helped raise awareness of DOE's dedication to improving used nuclear fuel storage and provided participants with the economic and community benefits of hosting a storage facility. Most notably, Clear Strategy Partners helped DOE create a Request for Proposals and a branding style guide along with dozens of infographics and educational materials for prospective Collaborative Siting participants. Most of DOE's published materials for this project feature our original designs and copy.

