

# Problems with Transportation of Low-Level Radioactive Waste

By M. Resnikoff, Ph.D.  
Radioactive Waste Management Associates

Problem:

## Importing Waste Means Transporting Waste

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- ▶ One of the key problems associated with the proposed importation rule is that it will result in “low-level” radioactive waste traveling long distances to the disposal site
- ▶ Long-distance travel increases the chances of accidents on highways and train routes on the way to Texas and inside the state’s borders



# Accidents Do Happen

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- ▶ DOE documents show that between 1971 and 1994 there were 306 accidents involving 3,649 containers of "low-level" radioactive waste.
- ▶ Of these, 236 containers were damaged and 149 resulted in an unspecified amount of radiation being released into the environment.
- ▶ On August 24th 2001, it was revealed that a 22-ton shipment of waste from a Illinois gaseous diffusion plant had headed for Andrews, and was lost for nearly a month when found dumped on a North Texas cattle ranch near Oklahoma piled on plastic and covered with dirt.



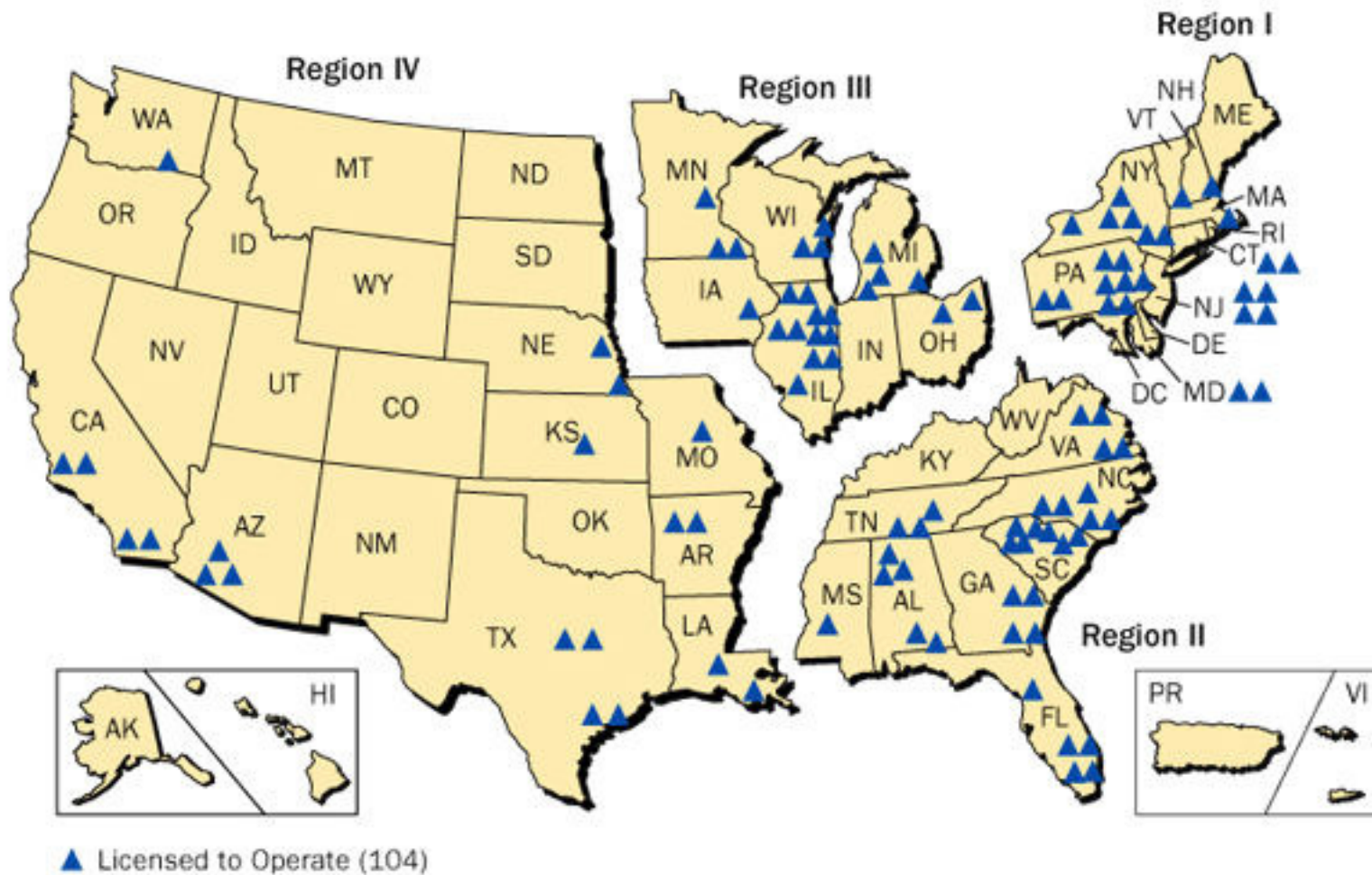
# Texas tractor-trailer crash statistics

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- ▶ 350 semi-trailers were involved in fatal accidents in 2008 according to the Texas Department of Transportation
- ▶ 10% of fatal motor vehicle accidents in Texas involve semi-trucks
- ▶ Texas accounts for almost 10% of fatal accidents in the United States – more than any other state nationwide, and triple the rate of most states.
- ▶ Radioactive waste shipments would increase the number of trucks on Texas highways, especially in the West Texas region.
- ▶ There were 9,051 train wrecks in Texas from 1990 through 2001 including 2,427 derailments and 399 collisions.
- ▶ How many communities along the route have a full time paid professional fire department, or the training and equipment necessary to respond to an emergency if radioactive waste is involved?



# Where will the waste come from?



# PWR Steam Generator

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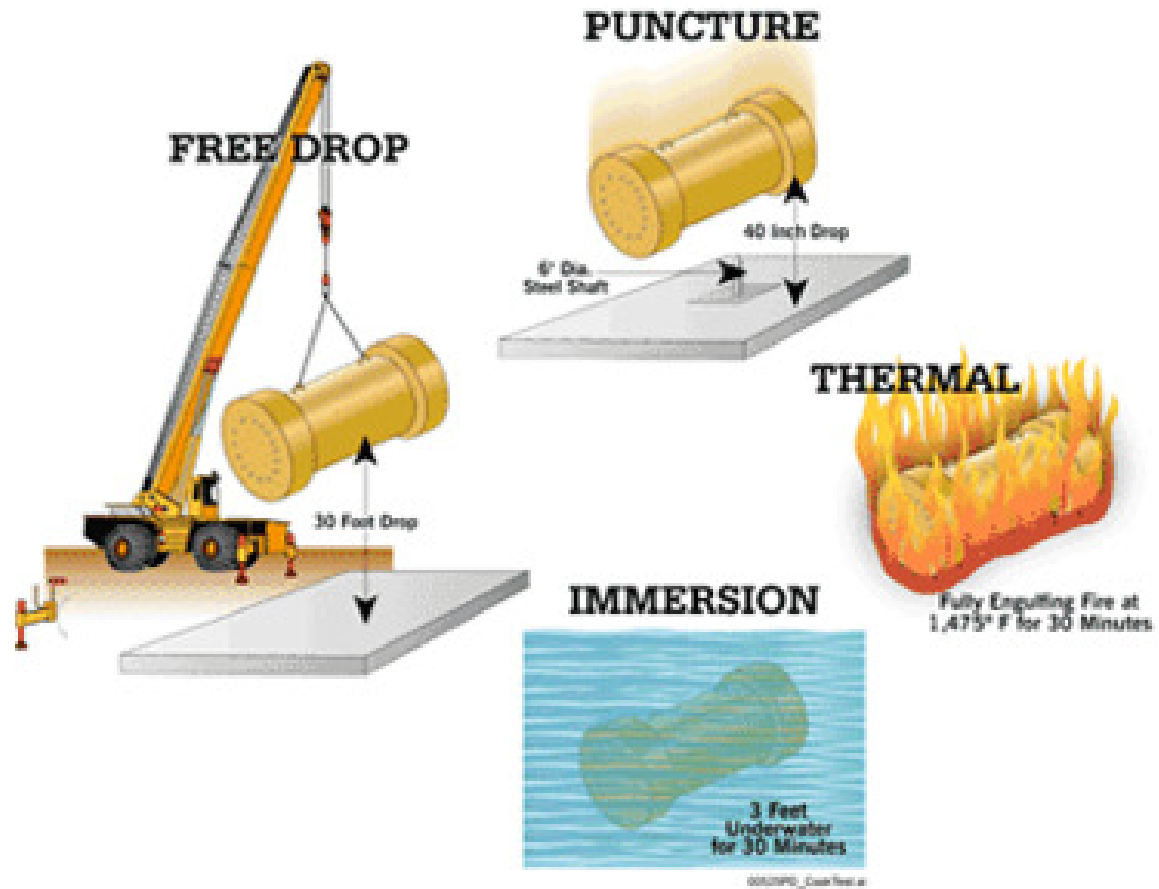


## Removal of LLW from Shipping Cask

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# Type B Safety Tests



# How will the waste get here?



**THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM**



# Gulf Coast Waste: On I-10 Through Houston & San Antonio

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# Southern Waste: I-20 and I-30 Through Dallas & Fort Worth

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# Midwestern and Northeastern Waste: I-40 & I-27 through Amarillo and Lubbock

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# Western Waste: I-10 & I-20 through El Paso and Odessa

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