

CONDUCTING THE SHIPMENTS

The TRM campaign began in April 2017 and made quick progress, with 17 shipments completed in the first five months. A core team of shipment planners conducted weekly calls to discuss near-term shipments and long-term plans for the campaign. The TRM campaign was undertaken concurrently with a spent nuclear fuel shipment campaign from the NRU and National Research Experimental (NRU/NRX) reactors, also located at Chalk River. The NRU/NRX and TRM campaigns used the same cask, trucks, and highway routes and were often conducted as joint shipments, moving two casks at a time. This streamlined the campaigns and limited the impact on the corridor states and tribe.

Every shipment was tracked on the DOE's TRANSCOM system, and the team provided regular updates to the various security and programmatic organizations actively following its progress. Once a shipment arrived at SRS, the full cask was off-loaded and an empty cask was placed back on the truck for the return trip to Canada.

The four-year shipping campaign involved 115 separate

truck shipments and covered approximately 150,000 miles, equal to traveling around the earth six times. In the end, the TRM removal team successfully completed all shipments without incident, despite loading, unloading, and shipping material year-round in all weather conditions, from freezing Canadian winters to broiling southern U.S. summers. More than 161 kilograms (354 pounds) of HEU were returned during this multi-year campaign, which marked another important step in the global effort to minimize the civilian use of HEU. ☒

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This article is based on a paper presented at the 2021 INMM & ESARDA Joint Annual Meeting, held online August 23–26.

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