




Q: *How do we protect shipments of high-level radioactive waste from sabotage?*

A: The same design features that make transportation casks capable of surviving severe accidents also limit their vulnerability to sabotage. In addition, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission surveys and must approve all routes. The governor of each state would be notified in advance, and shipments would be monitored around the clock through a satellite-based tracking system. All shipments would also be coordinated with local and federal law enforcement agencies.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has a special set of rules in place to address the physical protection of spent nuclear fuel in transit. These rules are designed to minimize the possibility of sabotage, and require the following:

- Notification of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and relevant governors prior to transport
- Current safeguard procedures for the shipper to follow in emergencies
- Escort training on threat recognition and management
- Advance arrangements with law enforcement agencies along the route
- Advance route approval by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- At least one escort to maintain visual surveillance of the shipment
- Status reporting every 2 hours by the escort(s)
- The capability to immobilize the cab or cargo-carrying portion of the vehicle (for highway shipments)



Physical security measures and the exceptional strength and durability of the transportation casks would protect shipments of radioactive waste from acts of terrorism or sabotage.

- Armed escorts for any shipment through heavily populated areas

- Protection of specific information about any shipment

