



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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TO: John J. Linehan, Director, HLPD, Division of High-Level
Waste Management, M/S 4 H 3

FROM: Paul T. Prestholt and John W. Gilray
Sr. On-Site Licensing Representatives

DATE: November 5, 1990

SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report for the week ending October 26, 1990. There is nothing of any particular significance in this report.

nan

cc w/encs.: King Stablein, M/S 4 H 3
Harold R. Denton, M/S 17 F 2
Dean Kunihiro, Region 5

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PDR WASTE PDC
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Department of Energy

Yucca Mountain Project Office

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WBS 1.2.9

QA: N/A

OCT 31 1990

John W. Bartlett, Director, Civilian Radioactive Waste Management,
HQ (FW-1) FORS

OFFICE OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL (OGD) WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 26, 1990

I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT

A. Site Characterization Planning

Midway Valley Trenching

Revision 1.07 of the Midway Valley/Calcite-Silica time-phased Logic Network showed -5 days float due to the delay in the approval of the Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office)/Nevada Operations Office Management Agreement. As a result, a draft of Revision 2.0 of the network has been prepared that incorporates revisions of the logic, redirection of resources, and a further subdivision of some of the critical path activities. The critical path activities that have been subdivided include developing the "key" Field Operating Instructions required by the Management Agreement and the implementation of the Yucca Mountain Project Safety and Health Plan. The draft shows +7 days float. This draft is being reviewed and it will be issued on October 26, 1990.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report (PR)

The Project Office anticipates that a draft PR will be ready for review by mid-November 1990. Project participants are now furnishing input for PR 3.

SCP Comments

Prior to November 1, 1990, the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), as well as the U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) offices (Environmental Health, Congressional Programs, and General Counsel) will have the opportunity to review draft responses developed by the OGD for seven comment packages on the Site Characterization Program (including the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Site

Characterization Analysis). Suggested edits/comments on draft responses pertaining to programmatic areas managed by these various DOE/HQ and OCFWM offices are now being solicited. On November 1, 1990, the Project Office will determine if the scope of these review comments warrant the Program Review Group Meeting that is tentatively scheduled for November 8, 1990.

SCP Study Plan Status

Study Plan 8.3.1.2.3.3, "Site Saturated Zone Synthesis and Modeling," from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is being sent out for Administrative Procedure-1.10Q review.

Comment verification for Study Plan 8.3.1.2.1.3, "Characterization of the Regional Ground-Water Flow System," has been completed.

The revised version of Study Plan 8.3.1.3.2.2, "History of Mineralogic and Geochemical Alteration of Yucca Mountain" has been received from Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos), and will be sent out for comment verification.

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

Project Office Acceptance Review.....	5
Revision.....	1
Project Review.....	0
Post-Project Office Revision.....	0
Parallel Project Office/HQ Review.....	12
HQ Review (Project Office Review Complete).....	0
Awaiting Comment Resolution.....	7
Post HQ Revision.....	7
Project Office/HQ Audit.....	16
NRC Acceptance Review.....	6
Revision.....	0
NRC Start-Work Review.....	0
Revision.....	0
NRC Acceptance.....	4
Total.....	58

Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) Alternatives and Calico Hills Risk Benefit Assessment (CHRBA)

Four Cost & Schedule influence diagrams were scored against the 34 options.

Scoring Activities

	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Number Total</u>
Influence Diagrams	20	20
Scoring Activities	476	680

Scoring Activities: 70% Complete

Testing Prioritization Task (TPT)

The Core Team met to finalize plans for the TPT Integration Group Assessment Meeting to be held October 31, 1990 - November 2, 1990, in Palo Alto, California.

Completed written summary of the TPT Integration Group Assessment Meeting held October 17-18, 1990, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Initiated Revision 1 to the TPT Implementation Plan. The new revision will expand the scope of the task to consider all tests enumerated in the SCP, reflect that the development of the Suitability Methodology is separate from the TPT, and reflect the new schedule for completing the effort.

Provided response to Standard Deficiency Report 595, which resulted from a recent Quality Assurance (QA) surveillance.

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B. Environmental and Transportation Programs**Environmental Field Programs**

Attended the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTREB) Panel Public Hearing on environmental issues.

Visited the Desert Research Institute facilities in Reno, Nevada, to review technical QA requirements.

Environmental Compliance and Permitting

The Floodplain/Wetlands Assessment was completed and sent to the Project Office for transmittal to DOE/HQ.

Work continues on coordinating preparation of the National Park Service (NPS) monitoring program with the USGS and Project Office. A meeting concerning the monitoring program was conducted on October 19, 1990. A revision was made of the Ground Water Monitoring Plan in response to the NPS protest of the Project Office water appropriation permit. Persistence and communication are closing the gap between NPS and the Project Office.

The Archaeological Research Design was submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on October 24, 1990. Comment responses are requested by November 15, 1990.

Transportation Studies

The transportation staff met with the University of Nevada at Reno, Nevada, (UNR) and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, Nevada, (UNLV) to discuss the results of their transportation research on the infrastructure. The staff also heard plans for future support for development of the rail spur. A joint UNR/UNLV project is planned.

The Project Office transportation staff attended the NWTREB transportation panel meeting in Washington, D.C., on October 22, 1990. The State of Nevada congratulated the Project Office staff on their cooperation in handling transportation issues. The Project Office was not included in presentations to the NWTREB.

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C. Field Operations

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo) internal audit was completed and is due to be reviewed by DOE on October 27, 1990. If approved, anticipated award date is November 2, 1990. Delivery of the product is expected four months from the date of award.

The Site Manager received verbal confirmation that funds had been made available for REECo to commence their activities in support of Job Package 90-1. A letter of authorization for the job package will be submitted next week to REECo for the commencement of work.

The first draft of the Field Management Network for fiscal year (FY) 1991 is in preparation. It will be submitted to the Site Manager by Tuesday, October 30, 1990.

The Site Manager received (from REECo) the vehicle identification numbers that will be used for the Midway Valley and Calcite-Silica motor pool. The process of determining the stage of configuration for these vehicles at the Yucca Mountain Site Office is ongoing.

D. Project Planning and Control

The September 1990 performance data were received from the major participants and input into the Planning and Control System. This data consisted of actual costs, percent complete, and the latest revised estimates, which will be used to prepare a final FY 1990 Cost Performance Report for the Yucca Mountain Project.

On-site visits were made this week to Sandia National Laboratories and Los Alamos to discuss the status of input for the Long Range Plan/Integrated Project Schedule (LRP/IPS).

Phase 1 of the LRP/IPS integration effort has been completed. The focus was to identify the interfaces between participants within an integration team schedule. During Phase 2, interfaces between the integration team schedules will be identified. In Phase 3, the participant data will be evaluated and revised to bring the schedule in line with the baselined Level-1 milestones.

E. QA Implementation

The Gold Star Qualification Audit of the Project Office was conducted this week.

A QA Workshop was held to discuss major issues resulting from a meeting held at Denver, Colorado, on August 7, 1990.

Preparations for the NWTB meeting to be held on November 1-2, 1990, are ongoing.

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F. Major Oversight Group Meetings

No major Oversight Group Meetings were reported this week.

G. Public Outreach Activities

The staff handled logistics and meeting arrangements and prepared talking points for John Bartlett, DOE/HQ OCRWM Director, and Carl Gertz, Yucca Mountain Project Manager, for the State of the Project Meeting held on October 26, 1990.

The staff handled logistics, prepared talking points, and assisted Project Office staff with media inquiries for a press briefing at the Las Vegas Yucca Mountain Information Office on October 26, 1990.

The staff continues planning for the next round of Yucca Mountain Project Public Update Meetings. The meetings will be held in Hawthorne, Nevada, on November 7, 1990; Amargosa Valley, Nevada, on November 8, 1990; and Henderson, Nevada, on November 20, 1990.

H. Near Term Decision Plan

No significant change in milestone status from last Program Management Meeting.

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Participated as a member of the OCRWM QA audit team at DOE Project Office on October 22-26, 1990, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Attended the October 23-24, 1990, planning meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada, for development of site suitability methodology and criteria, and in preparation for the Site Suitability Meeting scheduled for November 14-16, 1990.

Developed lists of data necessary for defining unsuitable conditions and compiled lists of parameters needed to address unsuitable conditions in preparation for the Site Suitability Meeting scheduled for November 14-16, 1990, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Revised OGD portions of the Quality Assurance Control Document in response to QA audit comments.

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III. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

John Bartlett, Director, OCRM, and Carl Gertz, Project Manager, held a presentation for all local DOE/Yucca Mountain Project employees and project participants titled "The State of the Project" on Friday, October 26, 1990, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Project Manager was actively involved in the Gold Star QA Audit held the week of October 22, 1990, at the Project Office in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The review of Package 2 of the Waste Form Qualification Report for the West Valley Demonstration Plant high-level waste glass was completed.

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Please note that the usage of "(P)" in the calendar indicates that the event is open to the public.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
A. <u>DOE/HQ Meetings</u>			
Thursday, November 1	Program Management Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
Thursday, November 8	Senior Management Retreat	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, November 28	Program Management Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
B. <u>Internal Project and DOE/NV meetings</u>			
No meetings scheduled at this time.			
C. <u>State and Public Interactions (P)</u>			
Monday, October 29	NV Nuclear Waste Study Committee	Las Vegas, NV	D. Morgan, Project Office

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>State and Public Interactions (continued) (P)</u>			
Tuesday, October 30	Sertoma Club	Las Vegas, NV	D. Morgan, Project Office
Wednesday, October 31	International Bro- therhood of Elec. Workers	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, October 31	Nevada Day Celebration	Las Vegas, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Saturday, November 3	Phi-Theta-Kappa Regional Meet	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Friday - Sunday, November 2-4	Henderson Expo	Henderson, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Wednesday, November 7	Public Update Meeting	Hawthorne, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Thursday, November 8	Public Update Meeting	Amargosa, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, November 14	1990 American Nuclear Society Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
Friday - Saturday, November 16-17	Nevada State Teachers Association	Elko, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Tuesday, November 20	Public Update Meeting	Henderson, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Tuesday, December 4	UNLV History Class	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, January 9, 1991	Daughters of the American Revolution	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office

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John W. Bartlett

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
D. <u>NRC Interactions</u>			
Thursday - Friday, November 8-9	TE on CHRBA	Denver, CO	A. Simmons, Project Office
Monday, November 19	NRC QA Meeting	Washington, DC	D. Horton, Project Office
Wednesday, November 21	TE on ESF Scoring	Denver, CO	A. Simmons, Project Office
Wednesday- Thursday, November 28-29	TE on Performance Assessment	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office
E. <u>NWIRB Interactions</u>			
Thursday - Friday, November 1-2	NWIRB QA Panel Meeting	Arlington, VA	M. Blanchard, Project Office
Monday - Tuesday, November 19-20	NWIRB TE on ESF Scoring	Denver, CO	A. Simmons, Project Office
Tuesday, November 21	TE on ESF Scoring	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office
Tuesday - Thursday, January 15-17, 1991	NWIRB Full Board Meeting	Washington, DC	A. Simmons, Project Office
Tuesday - Thursday, April 16-18, 1991	NWIRB Full Board Meeting	Reno, NV	A. Simmons, Project Office

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
E. <u>NWTRB Interactions (continued)</u>			
Tuesday - Thursday, July 16-18, 1991	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	Arlington, VA	A. Simmons, Project Office
Tuesday - Thursday, October 8-10, 1991	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	TED	A. Simmons, Project Office

Carl P. Gertz
 Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager
 Yucca Mountain Project Office

YMP:DLH-577

cc:

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 F. G. Peters, HQ (RW-1) FORS
 D. E. Shelor, HQ (RW-30) FORS
 H. H. Brandt, HQ (RW-13) FORS
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 Samuel Rousso, HQ (RW-10) FORS
 R. A. Milner, HQ (RW-40) FORS
 Nello Del Gobbo, HQ (RW-123) FORS
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 L. R. Hayes, USGS, Las Vegas, NV
 P. T. Prestholt, NRC, Las Vegas, NV
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