



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

Reply to:  
301 East Stewart Ave., #203  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  
Tel: (702) 388-6125  
FTS: 598-6125

TO: Joseph Holonich, Acting Director, HLPD, M/S 4 H 3  
FROM: Paul T. Prestholt and John W. Gilray  
Sr. On-Site Licensing Representatives  
DATE: March 26, 1991  
SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report for the week of March 15, 1991.

There is nothing requiring specific management attention in these reports.

nan

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

9104110225 910326  
PDR WASTE PDR  
WM-11

107  
WM-11  
N/A 3/11



## Department of Energy

Yucca Mountain Site Characterization

Project Office

P. O. Box 98608

Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

WBS 1.2.9

QA: N/A

MAR 19 1991

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

OFFICE OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL (OGD) WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING  
MARCH 15, 1991

### I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT (YMP)

#### A. Site Characterization Planning

##### Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF)

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) has completed its review of the Repository Design Requirements. This document has been submitted to the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) and is currently undergoing a Management Review. SNL is reviewing the ESF Design Requirements.

The plan for the Phased Approach to the ESF Design has been approved and distributed to participants.

The Electrical Power Requirements Study has been initiated. This study will determine what assets are currently available and what additional power is needed to support the tunnel boring machines and other aspects of ESF construction and operation.

The ESF Reference Design Concept (modified) network for the Work Authorization System has been completed.

A composite listing of activities supporting the ESF November 1992 milestone is being drawn up. The list outlines drawings, specifications, trade studies, calculations, job packages, site surveys, environmental and archaeological efforts, and readiness reviews. Two hundred twenty-seven major activities have been identified thus far.

Raytheon Services Nevada has completed and submitted the Engineering Plan to YMPO.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report

Comments from John Bartlett are now being incorporated in the final draft of the third Semiannual Progress Report (SPR3), for the period April through September 1990. Upon finalization of the camera-ready copy, the SPR will be submitted for printing.

SCP Comments

A three-day Integration Group Meeting is being held in Las Vegas, Nevada, this week to continue response development for the State of Nevada's September 1989 SCP comment package.

SCP Study Plan Status

Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.1, "Characterization of Unsaturated Zone Infiltration," was sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on March 1, 1991.

Study Plan 8.3.1.2.3.1 (1-6), "Characterization of the Site Saturated-Zone Ground-Water Flow System," was sent to the NRC on March 7, 1991.

Study Plan 8.3.1.8.1.1, "Probability of a Volcanic Eruption Penetrating the Repository," was sent to the NRC on March 5, 1991.

---

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

In Revision After Screening Review . . . . .	1
In YMPO and HQ Review . . . . .	15
Awaiting Comment Resolution Meeting . . . . .	11
Awaiting Author Revision . . . . .	7
In YMPO/HQ Verification Audit . . . . .	2
Verification Complete-Awaiting HQ Sign-off . . . . .	2
Awaiting YMPO Approval . . . . .	3
Approved and Awaiting Transmittal to NRC . . . . .	1
NRC Acceptance Review . . . . .	17
NRC Acceptance . . . . .	4
Total . . . . .	63

---

Early Site Suitability Evaluation (ESSE)

Core Team members continue developing evaluations of the individual guidelines of 10 CFR Part 960. A sub-group of the Core Team is developing the general approach to early site suitability evaluation.

MAR 19 1991

### Testing Prioritization Task (TPT)

The Phase I TPT Final Report was distributed to various organizations.

Other activities associated with the TPT are being conducted under the ESSE task.

## B. Environmental Programs

### Environmental Compliance and Permitting

Appendix J of the ESF Design Requirements Document, which summarizes the environmental requirements that apply to the ESF, was completed.

### Environmental Field Programs

Weather and soil temperature and moisture data were collected on all 48 ecological study plots as part of the Site Characterization Effects studies.

Traffic counters were established, and members of the staff were trained as part of the Disturbance Monitoring Study, which is also part of the Site Characterization Effects studies.

The YMPO contractors attended the Desert Tortoise Council Meeting, which is primarily a non-governmental initiated organization dealing with desert tortoise issues. Representatives from the research community and management agencies gathered in Las Vegas, Nevada, to participate in this workshop and information exchange; and representatives from California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah were among the participants.

Preactivity surveys to support U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) hydrological studies and volcanism activities are complete.

## C. Field Operations

The Site Manager is making preparations for the forthcoming Edison Electric Institute YMP Tour on April 9, 1991.

The Site Manager is finalizing the Planning and Scheduling Accounts applicable to Job Package (JP) 91-3, Field Management, prior to the official authorization for JP implementation.

The Field Engineering Department is revising internal procedures.

Tours of the Sample Management Facility were held on March 5, 1991, for the Southern Nevada Teachers Association and for the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Group on March 6, 1991.

MAR 19 1991

D. Project Planning and Control

A revised grading package was resubmitted to the Quality Review Board.

The April Approved Funding Plan was prepared and submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ).

Efforts to prepare a Project Management Baseline are nearing completion.

E. Quality Assurance (QA) Implementation

A conference call was conducted with NRC on Monday, March 11, 1991; which satisfactorily resolved NRC comments on the Science Applications International Corporation/Technical and Management Support Services Quality Assurance Program Description. A letter is being completed to document resolutions and will be issued for DOE/HQ transmittal to the NRC.

Staff of the Yucca Mountain QA Division will attend the first formal meeting of the QA Integration Group. The group's formation was one of the recommendations of the Scientific QA Workshop. The meeting will be held at USGS in Denver, Colorado, on March 14, 1991.

F. Major Oversight Group Meetings

No major oversight group meetings were held this week.

G. Public Outreach Activities

YMPO staff conducted follow-up assignments as a result of the Yucca Mountain Open House and Site Tour on March 2, 1991.

YMPO staff finalized arrangements and prepared presentations and exhibits for a panel discussion regarding Yucca Mountain at Clark County Community College on March 12, 1991.

Procurement activities continue for a Climax Mine display for the Las Vegas, Nevada, Yucca Mountain Information Office.

H. Near Term Decision Plan

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

I. Management System Improvement Strategy

No significant new items this week.

MAR 19 1991

## II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Continued development of the draft text as input for OGD sections of the Mission Plan Amendment. The draft text was available for internal OGD review on March 15, 1991. The Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management manager input is due by March 28, 1991.

Participated in the systems engineering functional analysis for the ESF Mission Analysis on March 11-15, 1991, in Denver, Colorado.

Completed the technical review under the Administrative Procedure 1.10Q review procedure of Study Plan 8.3.1.5.2.1.1,.3-.5, Characterization of the Yucca Mountain Quarternary Regional Hydrology.

Revised the text of the draft final responses to recommendations in the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's (NWTRB) Second Report.

## III. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

The Project Manager gave a presentation to the fourth grade students at M. J. Christensen Elementary School, Las Vegas, Nevada, on Wednesday, March 13, 1991.

## 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>
<b>A. <u>DOE/HQ Meetings</u></b>			
Wednesday- Thursday, April 3-4	Strategic Principles Workshop	Denver, CO	C. Gertz
Friday, April 5	Program Management Meeting	Denver, CO	C. Gertz
<b>B. <u>Internal and DOE/NV Meetings</u></b>			
Wednesday, March 20	NV Mgrs. Program Review	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Thursday, March 21	Planning & Budget Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz

MAR 19 1991

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
<b>B. <u>Internal and DOE/NV Meetings</u> (continued)</b>			
Friday, March 22	TPO Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
<b>C. <u>NRC Interactions</u></b>			
Tuesday, March 12	NRC Management Mtg. on Procedural Agreements	Washington, DC	A. Simmons
RESCHEDULED Late March	DOE Site Visit to CNWRA	San Antonio, TX	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, March 20-21	NRC TE on Radionuclide Retardation & Mineral Stability	Los Alamos, NM	A. Simmons
Tuesday, April 16	NRC Thermal Loading and Repository Design Staff Technical Position TE	Rockville, MD	A. Simmons
RESCHEDULED Thursday, April 25	NRC Bimonthly QA Meeting	Rockville, MD	A. Simmons
Wednesday, May 15	WIPP Roundtable Discussion	TBD	A. Simmons
<b>D. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (P)</b>			
Thursday- Friday, March 14-15	NWTRB Transportation and Systems Panel Meeting	Albuquerque, NM	TBD
Tuesday- Wednesday, March 26-27	NWTRB Joint QA/SG&G Panel Mtg. on QA of ESF Preliminary Design & DOE QA Program	Dallas, TX	A. Simmons
Tuesday- Thursday, April 16-18	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	Reno, NV	A. Simmons

MAR 19 1991

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
<b>D. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (continued) (P)</b>			
Monday- Tuesday, May 20-21	Risk & Performance Assessment Panel Meeting	Arlington, VA	A. Simmons
Tuesday- Thursday, June 18-20	NWTRB EBS Workshop	Denver, CO	A. Simmons
Tuesday- Thursday, June 25-27	Joint SG&G/HG&G Meeting on Testing Review	West Coast Site	TBD
Tuesday- Thursday, July 16-18	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	Arlington, VA	A. Simmons
Tuesday- Thursday, October 8-10	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	TBD	A. Simmons
<b>E. <u>Exhibits</u></b>			
Sunday- Tuesday, March 17-19	High-Level Waste Management Conference	Las Vegas, NV	K. Rohrer
<b>F. <u>State and Public Interactions</u> (P)</b>			
Tuesday, March 12	Clark County Community College Morning Presentation	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison
Tuesday, March 12	Clark County Community College Panel Discussion	Las Vegas, NV	Gertz/Fasano/ Andrews
Tuesday, March 12	Ira Earl Elementary School	Las Vegas, NV	E. Harle
Thursday, March 14	Rotary Club	Ely, NV	C. Gertz
Thursday, March 14	Bureau of Land Management	Ely, NV	C. Gertz
Thursday, March 14	General Services of Clark County	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison

MAR 19 1991

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
F. <u>State and Public Interactions</u> (continued) (P)			
Friday, March 15	League of Women Voters of E. Sierra	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz/ A. Robison
Friday, March 15	COLOG, Inc.	Knoxville, TN	L. Thompson
Monday, March 18	ASQC Second Int'l Waste Mgmt. Conf.	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Tuesday, March 19	Esmeralda County Transportation/ YMP Overview	Esmeralda Co., NV	Robison/ Grassmeier/ Andrews/ Seidler
Tuesday, March 19	ASQC Second Int'l Waste Mgmt. Conf.	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Thursday, April 4	American Nuclear Society	Tucson, AZ	A. Robison
Tuesday, April 16	Tunnels '91	Golden, CO	C. Gertz
Saturday, April 20	Open House Tour	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Wednesday, May 1	'91 High Level Radioactive Waste Mgmt. Conference	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Friday, May 10	Open House Tour	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
Tuesday- Thursday, June 18-20	DOE EBS Workshop	Denver, CO	Gertz/ Cloninger



Carl P. Gertz  
Project Manager

YMP:DLH-2765