



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

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TO: John J. Linehan, Deputy Director, 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: February 28, 1991

SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report for the week ending February 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

PLEASE NOTE: We are moving to the address listed above on March 4, 1991.

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WM-11  
N40311



**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

FEB 20 1991

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

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

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

A. Site Characterization Planning

Midway Valley Trenching

Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN) has completed management review of drawings and specifications for the deepening of Trench 14. Comment resolution is complete. The Engineering Plan for Trench 14 has been forwarded to the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO).

All activities associated with trenching remain in place ready to commence work. Subsequent reports will not contain weekly status of Midway Valley-Calcite Silica planning.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report

The final draft of the third semiannual "Progress Report on Site Characterization: Yucca Mountain, Nevada," (SPR 3), for the period April through September 1990, is still undergoing concurrence review at the U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ). Upon completion of this review, the YMPO will finalize a camera-ready copy of SPR 3 for submittal for printing.

SCP Comments

Work continues on response development for the State of Nevada's comments on the SCP.

SCP Study Plan Status

A revised version of Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.3, "Characterization of Percolation in the Unsaturated Zone—Surface Based Study," which incorporates resolutions to previously disputed YMPO comments, was received from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). This study plan is now ready for approval.

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

In Revision After Screening Review . . . . .	1
In YMPO Review . . . . .	14
Awaiting Comment Resolution Meeting . . . . .	11
Awaiting Author Revision . . . . .	7
In YMPO/HQ Verification Audit . . . . .	4
Verification Complete-Awaiting HQ Sign-off . . . . .	3
Awaiting YMPO Approval . . . . .	0
Approved and Awaiting Transmittal to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) . . . . .	7
NRC Acceptance Review . . . . .	11
NRC Acceptance . . . . .	4
Total . . . . .	62

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

The architect/engineer (A/E) design procedures, required due to the consolidation from two A/Es to one (RSN), have been completed. The designs are needed for the resumption of ESF Title II.

Four documents are in technical review: "Exploratory Shaft Facility Design Requirements," "Systems Requirements," "Systems Description," and "Repository Design Requirements." Changes required to provide for ESF Design Studies will be incorporated either as part of the revision process or included as changes to controlled documents as information becomes available.

Testing Prioritization Task (TPT)

A Management Assessment Panel Meeting was held February 14, 1991, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of the meeting was to assess management opinions on two value judgments that the TPT analysis has shown to be critical to test prioritizations.

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B. Environmental ProgramsEnvironmental Compliance and Permitting

The DOE/HQ's draft Statement of Findings (SOF) concerning impacts in a floodplain was reviewed and a letter prepared indicating no comments. The SOF, supported by the Floodplain Assessment, will go to the Federal Register for public notification later this month.

C. Field Operations

The Site Manager has received five Field Operations Permits from Field Operations Center staff.

The Site Manager has approved Job Package 91-4, the Environmental Field Program. The job package will be issued to the Science Applications International Corporation Document Control Center this week.

During a Sample Overview Committee Meeting for February 1990, specimen removal was approved for staff of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

A tour of the Sample Management Facility was conducted for DOE, Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc., and MAC Technical Services Company.

Removal of specimens for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory was completed; specimens are to be shipped by February 15, 1991.

D. Project Planning and Control

An in-depth analysis of USGS' discrete summary account distribution curves and their impact on USGS fiscal year 1991 Performance Measurement Baseline updates has been completed. Results of the analysis, with appropriate recommendations, have been forwarded to USGS.

The preliminary specifications for the Planning and Control System "what-if" module were completed.

Twice weekly conference calls with YMP participant staff preparing the Work Authorization System and the Project Management Baseline were initiated.

Closure of open ends in the integrated YMP schedule is nearing completion.

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Preparations are under way for a meeting with the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Project Control staff on February 20-21, 1991, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The transmittal of the monthly update to the Authorized Funding Program was submitted to DOE/HQ.

E. Quality Assurance Implementation

A dry run was conducted on February 13, 1991, for the upcoming auditor training course.

F. Major Oversight Group Meetings

No major oversight group meetings were held this week.

G. Public Outreach Activities

YMPO staff continued preparations and arrangements in support of the Yucca Mountain Site Open House scheduled for March 2, 1991, at the Nevada Test Site.

YMPO staff continued updating the 1991 YMP exhibit schedule and proceeded with procurement activities for a Climax Mine display for the Las Vegas, Nevada, Yucca Mountain Information Office.

Revision of the draft educational package for grades 7-9 is in process.

H. Near Term Decision Plan

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

I. Management System Improvement Strategy (MSIS)

Of the \$600,000 budgeted for MSIS, \$265,131 has been spent.

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Completed review of the NRC's final draft, "Staff Technical Position on Investigations to Identify Fault Displacement and Seismic Hazards at a Geologic Repository," in preparation for the DOE/NRC Technical Exchange on February 20, 1991.

Finalized the Yucca Mountain Project Plan.

Reviewed/revised OGD portions of Chapter 3 of the Strategic Principles Discussion Draft.

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Provided input to the Site Suitability Core Team in preparation for the next Core Team Meeting.

Reviewed the December 1990 draft "Summary Report on Determination of Cost Effective Waste Management System Receipt Rates."

### III. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Carl Gertz, Associate Director, OGD, met in Pleasanton, California, with Tom Isaacs, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and International Programs, and their key staff to discuss a plan of action to address the potential impacts on a Mined Geologic Disposal System of large-scale development of an Actinide-burning, Liquid Metal Reactor industry in the United States.

### 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, YMPO
<b>B. <u>Internal and DOE/NV Meetings</u></b>			
Thursday, February 21	Planning & Budget Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Friday, February 22	TPO Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Friday, March 8	Program Management Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, YMPO
<b>C. <u>State and Public Interactions (P)</u></b>			
Tuesday, February 19	UNLV-Soviet Scientists Exchange	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Wednesday, February 20	American Business Women's Association	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison, YMPO

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>State and Public Interactions</u> (P) (continued)			
Thursday, February 28	'91 Waste Management Conference	Tucson, AZ	C. Gertz, YMPO
Thursday, February 28	Senior Management Review Mtg. DOE/NV	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Thursday, February 28	Retired School Teachers	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison, YMPO
Tuesday, March 5	UMTRA Project Coordination Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Tuesday, March 12	Clark County Community College Panel Discussion	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
Thursday, April 4	American Nuclear Society	Tucson, AZ	A. Robison, YMPO
Tuesday, April 16	Tunnels '91	Golden, CO	C. Gertz, YMPO
Wednesday, May 1	High Level Waste Mgmt. Conference	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, YMPO
D. <u>Exhibits</u>			
Monday- Monday, February 18-25	National Engineers Week, Boulevard Mall	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison/ J. Lorenz, YMPO
E. <u>NRC Interactions</u>			
Wednesday, February 20	NRC Seismic Hazards Staff Technical Position TE	Rockville, MD	A. Simmons, YMPO
Rescheduled Wednesday- Thursday, March 6-7	DOE Site Visit to CNWRA	San Antonio, TX	A. Simmons, YMPO

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
<b>E. <u>NRC Interactions</u> (continued)</b>			
Tuesday, March 12	NRC Management Mtg. on Procedural Agreements	Washington, DC	A. Simmons, YMPO
Wednesday- Thursday, March 20-21	NRC TE on Radionuclide Retardation & Mineral Stability	West Coast Site	A. Simmons, YMPO
Tuesday, April 16	NRC Thermal Loading and Repository Design Staff Technical Position TE	Washington, DC	A. Simmons, YMPO
Wednesday, May 15	WIPP Roundtable Discussion	TBD	A. Simmons, YMPO
<b>F. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (P)</b>			
Friday, March 1	NWTRB Meeting on Volcanic Hazards & Vulnerability	Tucson, AZ	A. Simmons, YMPO
Wednesday- Thursday, March 6-7	NWTRB Structural Geology & Geo- engineering Panel Mtg. on CHRBA, ESFA, ESSE, and TPT	Denver, CO	Dobson/Petrie/ Dyer, YMPO
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	Dobson/Petrie/ Horton, YMPO
Tuesday- Thursday, April 16-18	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	Reno, NV	A. Simmons, YMPO



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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
<b>F. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (P) (continued)</b>			
Tuesday- Thursday, June 18-20	NWTRB EBS Workshop	Denver, CO	Cloninger/ Petrie, YMPO
Tuesday- Thursday, July 16-18	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	Arlington, VA	A. Simmons, YMPO
Tuesday- Thursday, October 8-10	NWTRB Full Board Meeting	TBD	A. Simmons, YMPO

YMP:DLH-2221

*Maxwell Blanchard*  
 for Carl P. Gertz  
 Project Manager

## cc:

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 J. C. Bresee, HQ (RW-10) FORS  
 S. J. Brocoun, HQ (RW-22) FORS  
 B. A. Cerny, HQ (RW-14) FORS  
 M. A. Ferguson, HQ (RW-5) FORS  
 Stephanie Hannah, HQ (PA-3) FORS  
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