



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD**

2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201-3367

July 25, 2002

Mr. William Reamer
Deputy Director, Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T7 J8
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Reamer:

Thank you for agreeing to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) participation in the fall meeting of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board). The meeting will take place on September 10, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nevada. It will be devoted to a number of topics important to the nation's high-level radioactive waste program, including total system performance assessment and barrier analyses. The Board will hear presentations by the Electric Power Research Institute and the Department of Energy on their efforts in this area. We look forward to NRC representation in the round table discussion at the meeting.

Enclosed is a copy of a draft agenda. Each of the participants in the round table, including the NRC, who did not make presentations, will be allotted 3 minutes at the beginning of the discussion to summarize their views. Please note the questions in the draft agenda that are being posed to the round table. Of course, any insights from the work conducted in this area by your own staff and contractors that you care to share would be appreciated.

The meeting will be held in the Alexis Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89019, Tel. (800) 453-8000. Reservations should be made by August 21, 2002. Please indicate that you are attending the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board Meeting to receive the preferred rate.

We are looking forward to an interesting meeting. Please let us know who will be representing the NRC on the round table. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call. I can also be reached by email at: reiter@nwtrb.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leon Reiter".

Leon Reiter
Senior Professional Staff

Enclosure

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Per [unclear] High
NMSO1 Public



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**Draft
Fall 2002 Board Meeting
September 10, 2002**

Alexis Park Hotel
375 E. Harmon Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89109
Tel: (702) 796-3300
Fax: (702) 796-3354

8:00 a.m. Call to order and introductory statements
Michael Corradini, Chairman, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB)
Jared Cohon, Outgoing Chairman, NWTRB

8:30 a.m. Overview of Programmatic Developments
Margaret Chu, Director
Department of Energy (DOE)
Office of Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM)

8:45 a.m. Questions, discussion

9:00 a.m. Yucca Mountain Project Plans
Russ Dyer,
Yucca Mountain Project (DOE/YMP)

9:15 a.m. Questions, discussion

9:45 a.m. BREAK

10:00 a.m. Introduction to Session
Paul Craig, Session Chair

10:05 a.m. Science and Engineering Update
Mark Peters
Bechtel SAIC/Los Alamos National Laboratories (BSC/LANL)

10:45 a.m. Questions, Discussion

11:15 a.m. Report on Proposed Science and Technology Program
TBD, DOE/YMP

11:30 a.m. Questions, discussion

11:45 a.m. Inyo County, CA, Regional Ground Water Monitoring Program
Michael King
The Hydrodynamics Group

12:00 p.m. Questions, Discussion

12:15 p.m. LUNCH

1:30 p.m. Interim Report of the Igneous Consequences Peer Review Panel
Robert Budnitz, Panel Chair
Future Resources Associates (FRA)

1:50 p.m. Questions, Discussion

2:05 p.m. Update on Corrosion Testing
Gerry Gordon, BSC

2:25 p.m. Questions, Discussion

2:45 p.m. Update on Repository Design
Larry Trautner, DOE/YMP

3:05 p.m. Questions, discussion

3:25 p.m. BREAK

3:35 p.m. Introduction to Session
Norman Christensen, Session Chair

3:40 p.m. Electric Power Research Institute Performance Assessment and Barrier Analyses
John Kessler, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Questions to the speaker

What are the results of the TSPA and barrier analyses?
What are the driving assumptions and data?
How and why are they different than TSPAs of Yucca Mountain produced by other groups?

4:00 p.m. Questions, discussion

4:20 p.m. DOE Performance Assessment and Barrier Analyses
Peter Swift BSC/Sandia National Laboratories (SNL)

Questions to the speaker

What are the results of the TSPA and barrier analyses?

What are the driving assumptions and data?
How and why are they different than the TSPAs and barrier analyses produced by other groups?

4:35 p.m. *Questions, Discussion*

4:50 p.m. **Round Table Discussion of TSPA and Barrier Analyses**
John Kessler (EPRI), Peter Swift (BSC/SNL), Abe Van Luik (DOE), Steve Frishman (State of Nevada), NRC (TBD), John Garrick (Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste), Robert Budnitz (FRA)

Questions for the Round Table

- (1) What are the main causes for differences between the TSPA results?
- (2) How significant are these differences and how do they affect confidence in TSPA results?
- (3) Can any common conclusions be drawn from the different barrier analyses?
- (4) What do these analyses say about the relative significance of natural and engineered barriers at Yucca Mountain?
- (5) Can the barrier analyses be improved? If so, how?

5:30 p.m. **Public Comments**

6:00 p.m. **Adjourn**