



Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
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MAY 29, 1997, WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

TO: Lake H. Barrett, DOE/HQ (RW-1)

FROM: Wesley E. Barnes, DOE/YMSCO

W. E. Barnes

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT

The following activities are provided as input from the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office for the Program Office Weekly Report.

I. MAJOR EVENTS

Seven employees received minor injuries in two incidents involving the man train on May 23, 1997. The M&O and Kiewitt are reviewing operating procedures and YMSCO will review and evaluate their review and planned corrective actions. Tunnel operations were discontinued for one shift following the incidents.

AMAAM and the YMSCO Viability Assessment Manager concluded numerous briefings and discussions with the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, and Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management supporting the Enhanced Characterization Repository Block (ERCB). Final discussions and adjustments to the scope, schedule, and estimated cost for the ECBR change request (CR) are being concluded. The final CR will be submitted on June 3, 1997, for YMSCO review. The submission of the change request will conclude the planned activities of the Integrated Planning Committee.

Draft #2 of the fiscal year 1999 Corporate Review Budget (CRB) request summaries were completed and submitted for review by the budget writers.

II. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report was submitted to the Nevada State Engineer. This Yucca Mountain water appropriation permit requirement reports groundwater levels and spring flows at approximately 40 monitoring locations in the Yucca Mountain region.

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Work continued on the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) at the Exploratory Studies Facility South Portal. Workers installed Hillman Rollers on the TBM and installed cross bracing to stabilize grippers during the pull-out of the machine. The TBM was pulled forward approximately 10 feet.

In Alcove #5, Thermal Test Facility, completed Heated Drift Test Holes #111, 147, 148, 149, 150, 158, 163, 166, and 167. Initiated drilling on Heated Drift Test Holes #152 and 162. Installed instruments in Heated Drift Test Hole #143. Initiated drilling on Access Observations Drift Test Hole #54. Completed drilling on Access Observation Drift #71. Continued drilling on Access Observation Drift Test Hole #72.

In Alcove #6, Northern Ghost Dance Fault Alcove, there was no advance in the Access Drift or Drill Alcove. Completed drilling on Hole ESF-NDR-MF #2 and the United States Geological Survey continued tests on ESF-NDR-MF #1.

In Alcove #7, Southern Ghost Dance Fault Alcove, no advance in the Access Drift. In Niche #1, installed 23 rock bolts at Niche intersection with main tunnel and installed "Y" in tunnel vent line for niche ventilation. In Niche #2, installed 24 rock bolts at niche intersection with main tunnel and installed "Y" in tunnel vent line for Niche ventilation.

At the Exploratory Studies Facility North Portal, work continued on the Change House. Exterior lights were installed. Texture and paint were applied to walls and completed insulation of interior A/C duct. Continued with insulation of exterior A/C duct work and installed bathroom fixtures.

Five tours of Yucca Mountain were coordinated and conducted for 70 guests. These included tours for Kansai Electric Power Company, CTK Seniors, Nevada Policy Research Institute, and a Nuclear Energy Institute tour. Of special interest was a tour on May 29, 1997, for reporter Matt Wald and a photographer from the New York Times.

III. ISSUES

No items to report.

IV. COST SUMMARY

No items to report.

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