



Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

July 3, 1997, WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

TO: Lake H. Barrett, DOE/HQ (RW-1)
FROM: *Wesley E. Barnes*
Wesley E. Barnes, DOE/YMSCO
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

Excavation of the first testing niche, Niche #1, was completed this week. Drilling of additional boreholes in the niche is planned to begin next week. The niche studies will provide information about moisture travel in the unsaturated zone around openings.

Drilling of holes in support of the moisture studies in the non-welded unit (Ptn) began this week. Approximately 10 of the 20 planned holes in the North Ramp have been completed at this time.

II. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Yucca Mountain Project *Socioeconomic Program Quarterly Employment Data Report* was delivered to representatives of the State of Nevada and affected units of local government. This report describes the characteristics of workers associated with the YMP, including residential distribution, immigration, occupation, etc., from the period January 1997 to March 1997.

The Director of the Office of Institutional Affairs and staff provided a Yucca Mountain Project update to the Inyo County, CA Board of Supervisors, on July 1, 1997. In addition to the update presentation, the following issues were discussed: status of the Inyo County technical data collection proposal (will DOE conduct any of the work proposed by Inyo County); a request for the DOE to respond to a letter in which Inyo County asked the DOE for a formal letter rejecting or approving FY 1996 oversight funds for the county; and a formal request to hold a public hearing in Inyo County to discuss site recommendation.

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III. ISSUES

No items to report.

IV. COST SUMMARY

No items to report.