



Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 98608  
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14

MAY 13 1996

Daniel A. Dreyfus, Director, Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, HQ (RW-1)  
FORS

YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION OFFICE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK  
ENDING MAY 10, 1996 (SCP: N/A)

I. FORECAST OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. Assistant Manager for Engineering and Field Operations

No significant items to report.

B. Assistant Manager for Scientific Programs

No significant items to report.

C. Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety, and Health

The second quarter, fiscal year 1996, Groundwater Monitoring Report will be submitted to the Nevada State Engineer by May 15, 1996. This document reports groundwater quantity, groundwater withdrawals, and the withdrawals' impact on surrounding aquifers in the Yucca Mountain region.

D. Assistant Manager for Suitability and Licensing

An agenda setting teleconference is scheduled for May 13, 1996, to prepare for the U.S. Department of Energy/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Total System Performance Assessment Technical Exchange scheduled for May 22-23, 1996, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of this exchange is to discuss the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's review and comments on the U.S. Department of Energy's Total System Performance Assessment-1995.

The U.S. Department of Energy/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Technical Meeting on the Exploratory Studies Facility that was scheduled for May 14, 1996, via videoconference between Washington, D.C. and Las Vegas, Nevada, has been rescheduled for June 3, 1996. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update of activities for design and construction of the Exploratory Studies Facility and resolve related issues.

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MAY 13 1996

E. Assistant Manager for Administration

No significant items to report.

F. Office of Public Affairs

No significant items to report.

II. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS

\* A. Assistant Manager for Engineering and Field Operations

The Tunnel Boring Machine progressed to Station 52+70.8 meters or 17,292.6 feet as of 8:00 a.m., May 13, 1996. The Tunnel Boring Machine is 1,330.8 meters or 4,365 feet ahead of schedule. In time, this equates to approximately 150 days ahead of schedule. Ground conditions continued all week at Category 1. The Alpine Miner has advanced to Station 85.9 meters or 281.8 feet in the Access/Observation Drift of the Heat Test Alcove. The Alpine Miner has advanced to Station 08.0 meters or 26.2 feet in the Ghost Dance Fault Alcove.

B. Assistant Manager for Scientific Programs

No critical items to report.

C. Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety, and Health

No critical items to report.

D. Assistant Manager for Suitability and Licensing

No critical items to report.

E. Assistant Manager for Administration

No critical items to report.

F. Office of Public Affairs

No critical items to report.

\*Asterisk indicates those items we suggest for input to the Secretary's Weekly Report.

MAY 13 1996

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Assistant Manager for Engineering and Field Operations

- \* The best day of Tunnel Boring Machine excavation this week was Tuesday, when 43.4 meters or 142.4 feet were excavated. The Tunnel Boring Machine was not operated on Friday, May 10, 1996, to facilitate moving the Alpine Miner to the Ghost Dance Fault Alcove. Current plans are to utilize the Alpine Miner at the Ghost Dance Fault Alcove until it is into Station 0+38 meters and then move it back to the Thermal Test Alcove for completion of its excavation.

B. Assistant Manager for Scientific Programs

No items to report.

C. Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety, and Health

Environmental compliance and safety surveillances were conducted at the Yucca Mountain Nevada, site, ensuring compliance with permit and programmatic requirements.

Final water quality tests on the Exploratory Studies Facilities potable water system were performed resulting in Nevada Division of Health's approval to operate the system.

D. Assistant Manager for Suitability and Licensing

The Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office participated in a U.S. Department of Energy/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Management Meeting on May 8, 1996, via videoconference between Las Vegas, Nevada, Washington, D.C., and San Antonio, Texas. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss current activities, concerns, and needs.

E. Assistant Manager for Administration

No items to report.

\*Asterisk indicates those items we suggest for input to the Secretary's Weekly Report.

MAY 13 1996

F. Office of Public Affairs

The staff gave two general Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project overviews to 190 students in Las Vegas, Nevada; a Yucca Mountain Johnny presentation to 25 students in Las Vegas, Nevada; and two educational presentations to 188 students in Pahrump, Nevada, and Las Vegas, Nevada. The staff also gave a Native American Culture presentation to 15 senior citizens in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The staff conducted a tour of Yucca Mountain for 22 guests of the Native American Tribal Update Meeting, May 8-10, 1996. Six other tours were conducted for 50 guests. Of special interest were tours for guests from the Nuclear Research Institute, Czech Republic; from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality; and from the Charleston Post-Courier.

G. Participants

No items to report.



Wesley E. Barnes  
Project Manager

AMSL:CH-1758

MAY 13 1996

cc:

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