



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

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TO: John J. Linehan, Director, HLPD, 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: October 26, 1990

SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report for the week ending October 19, 1990. There is nothing of any particular significance in these reports.

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cc w/encs.: King Stablein, M/S 4 H 3
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Department of Energy

Yucca Mountain Project Office

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WBS 1.2.9

QA: N/A

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

OFFICE OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL (OGD) WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 19, 1990

I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT

A. Site Characterization Planning

Midway Valley Trenching

Revision 1.06 of the Midway Valley/Calcite-Silica activities time-phased Logic Network shows 0 days float. The critical path includes the approval of the Yucca Mountain Project/Nevada Operations Office Management Agreement and the development of key Field Operating Instructions (FOIs) by the Yucca Mountain Site Office. If the agreement is not signed by October 18, 1990, this activity will be behind schedule. Means of reducing the duration of the development of the key FOIs are being developed.

The Yucca Mountain Project Safety and Health Plan was approved on October 11, 1990. The implementation of the plan has begun.

The "Technical Requirements for the Yucca Mountain Project (Midway Valley and Calcite-Silica Activities)," Revision 1, has been accepted for project use. This revision enables the architect-engineer to complete design of Area A trenches in Midway Valley.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report (PR)

The Analysis & Verification Division and Regulatory & Site Evaluation Division, OGD, are establishing a coordinated process for producing the next PR. Project participants are now compiling input for PR 4 (end of reporting period; September 30, 1990).

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SCP Comments

Draft comment responses for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Site Characterization Analysis and five other commenting agencies have been sent to each Radioactive Waste (RW) office as well as U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) offices (Environmental Health, Congressional Programs, and General Counsel). Suggested comments on these draft responses are being solicited prior to the Program Review Group (PRG) Meeting scheduled for November 8, 1990. Representatives from the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) or other DOE/HQ offices who will participate as PRG reviewers, either by providing text edits or attending the PRG meeting, should be identified to Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office) representatives.

The State of Nevada comment package on the SCP (1,917 total comments; less comments on the study plans for Midway Valley and Quaternary Regional Hydrology) were distributed on October 12, 1990, to project participant organizations.

 STATUS OF SCP COMMENT RESPONSE PACKAGES

COMMENT PACKAGE	STATUS	# COMMENTS	ANTICIPATED RELEASE
SCP/CD			
State of Nevada SCP/CD	Released 10/89	929	N/A
NRC Point Papers SCP/CD	Released 12/88	167	N/A
USGS Comments SCP/CD	Released 10/89	698	N/A
Edison Electric Institute	Released 10/89	5	N/A
STATUTORY SCP			
Reno Public Hearing	Released 8/1/90	234	N/A
Las Vegas Public Hearing	Released 8/1/90	150	N/A
Amargosa Public Hearing	Released 8/1/90	49	N/A
Public Written Comments	Completed	53 ltrs.	varies
California Energy Commission	PRG Review	38	11/90
Lincoln County Board of Commissioners	PRG Review	6	11/90
Environmental Protection Agency	PRG Review	12	11/90
Edison Electric Institute	PRG Review	28	11/90
U. S. Department of Interior	PRG Review	35	11/90
Site Characterization Analysis	PRG Review	198	11/90
State of NV Letter on ESF	PRG Review	58	11/90
NV Midway Valley SCP Comments	Responses in Prep.	26	11/90
NV Ca-Si SCP Comments	Responses in Prep.	12	11/90
NV SCP Comments (main pkg.)	Responses in Prep.	1,917	*

* Response effort to continue through mid-1991. Prior to this time, availability of responses pertaining to specific near-term site work is based on the schedule for that work (i.e., treated as a pre-requisite activity).

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 STATUS OF STUDY PLAN COMMENTS

COMMENTOR	STUDY PLAN	# COMMENTS	STATUS	ANTICIPATED RELEASE
Nevada	Midway Valley	3	Response Ltr. in DOE/YMP concurrence	11/90
NRC	Midway Valley	16	Response in Prep.	12/90
NRC	Quat. Reg. Hydrology	9	Response in Prep.	12/90

SCP Study Plan Status

Study Plan 8.3.1.17.3.5, "Ground Motion at the Site from Controlling Seismic Events," has been received from the U.S. Geological Survey and will be entered into the Administrative Procedure-1.10Q review process.

 STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

Project Office Acceptance Review. . .	5
Revision.	1
Project Review.	0
Post-Project Office Revision. . . .	0
Parallel Project Office/HQ Review . .	11
HQ Review (Project Office Review complete)	0
Awaiting comment resolution	7
Post HQ Revision.	8
Project Office/HQ Audit	15
NRC Acceptance Review	6
Revision	0
NRC Start-Work Review	0
Revision	0
NRC Acceptance	4
Total	57

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

A Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTB) technical exchange was held October 11, 1990, and involved extended discussion of information needs material presented by Jack Robertson. The NRC technical exchange in Rockville, Maryland, on October 12, 1990, was well attended, and involved extensive discussion of all CHRBA results to date. Review comments for the September 14, 1990, draft

materials are still in process. Decision analyst, John Lathrop, was added to the CHRBA team October 16, 1990. The supporting narrative needed to set up the multi-attribute utility analysis is still in preparation with expected completion date of October 19, 1990.

Tutorials for the Expert Panel on Cost and Schedules have been completed.

<u>Scoring Activities</u>		
	<u>Number Completed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Influence Diagrams	20	20
Scoring Activities	340	680
	Scoring Activities:	50% Complete

Testing Prioritization Task (TPT)

A TPT Integration Group assessment meeting was held October 17-18, 1990, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Evaluation of preclosure potentially adverse conditions that will be added to the assessment methodology continues.

Alternative to Licensing Application Strategies (ATLAS)

A Final Report for the ATLAS task has been completed and was transmitted to RW-1 this week. No further status for the ATLAS task will be reported.

B. Environmental and Transportation Programs

Environmental Field Programs

The Research Design for Archaeological Resources is in review by the Project Office.

Environmental Compliance and Permitting

Work continues on the Environmental Management Plan with final verification scheduled for completion next week.

Transportation Studies

Written testimony was delivered to the NWTRB on Yucca Mountain transportation activities.

C. Field Operations

On Monday, October 15, 1990, the training coordinator commenced on-site training for Area 25 personnel. This training consisted of two areas: Environmental Awareness and Project Orientation.

A tour for the National Academy of Sciences was conducted during the week of October 15-19, 1990.

Job Package 90-1 for upcoming borehole remedial work is being reviewed. An operations permit for the job package has been issued.

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. Contracts Department concluded cost/price negotiations with Lang Exploratory Drilling October 9, 1990. A brief audit is presently underway on cost/pricing data and is anticipated to be completed next week. The contract will be awarded at the conclusion of the audit.

D. Project Planning and Control

Continued to input participant data into the Planning & Control System (PACS) for the fiscal year 1991 Performance Measurement Baseline.

Received first inputs of September 1990 PACS performance data (actual dollars, percent complete, latest revised estimate) and input the data into the system.

E. Quality Assurance (QA) Implementation

OCRWM HQ audit was conducted this week.

Continued preparations for the Yucca Mountain Project audit to be conducted next week.

F. Major Oversight Group Meetings

The Environmental and Public Health Panel of the NWTRB met in Reno, Nevada, on October 15-16, 1990. A presentation by DOE was made on the Yucca Mountain Socioeconomic program.

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G. Public Outreach Activities

Staff continues planning for the next round of Yucca Mountain Project Public Update Meetings. The meetings will be held in Hawthorne, Nevada, November 7, 1990; Amargosa Valley, Nevada, November 8, 1990; and Henderson, Nevada, November 20, 1990.

The Office of Institutional and External Affairs staff continued revising the Yucca Mountain Story brochure.

Feasibility studies for an exhibit of the Climax Mine for the Yucca Mountain Information Office, Las Vegas, Nevada, continues.

H. Near Term Decision Plan

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

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Participated in the OCRWM QA audit at DOE/HQ October 15-19, 1990.

Participated in discussion on Total System Performance Assessment capabilities with Pacific Northwest Laboratory in Richland, Washington, on October 15, 1990, and Sandia National Laboratories and RE/SPEC in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on October 16, 1990.

Participated in 06-04 review of management plan for developing methodology for interim site suitability assessments in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 17-18, 1990.

III. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

The Project Manager gave a presentation to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget examiners on Wednesday, October 17, 1990. The presentation was an overview of the project and Yucca Mountain Project's 1992 Planned Activities.

The Waste Qualification Report (WQR) Technical Review Group met in Las Vegas, Nevada, to review the WQR for high-level waste glass to be produced at the Defense Waste Processing Facility. A Management Review for the Annotated Outline of the Repository Plan has been initiated.

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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>YMFO Contact</u>
A. <u>DOE/HQ Meetings</u>			
Thursday, November 1	Program Management Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
B. <u>Internal Project and DOE/NV meetings</u>			
No meetings scheduled at this time.			
C. <u>State and Public Interactions (P)</u>			
Monday, October 22	UNLV Current Events Program	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Tuesday, October 23	Topical Symposium Environmental Radiation & Public Policy	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, October 24	CCCC Political Science Class	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Saturday, October 27	Bldg. Trades Council Apprenticeship Program	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison, Project Office
Monday, October 29	NV Nuclear Waste Study Committee	Las Vegas, NV	D. Morgan, Project Office
Monday, October 29	UNLV Panel Discussion on Nuclear Waste	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Tuesday, October 30	Sertoma Club	Las Vegas, NV	D. Morgan, Project Office
Wednesday, October 31	International Brotherhood of Elec. Workers	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>State and Public Interactions (continued) (P)</u>			
Saturday, November 3	Phi-Theta-Kappa Regional Meet	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, November 7	Public Update Meeting	Hawthorne, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Thursday, November 8	Public Update Meeting	Amargosa, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Monday - Friday, November 12-16	1990 American Nuclear Society Meeting	Washington, DC	C. Gertz, Project Office
Tuesday, November 20	Public Update Meeting	Henderson, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Wednesday, January 9	Daughters of the American Revolution	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz, Project Office
Friday - Sunday, October 26-28	Fair Show '90 - CCCC	N. Las Vegas, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Wednesday, October 31	Nevada Day Celebration	Las Vegas, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Friday - Sunday, November 2-4	Henderson Expo	Henderson, NV	M. Powell, Project Office
Friday - Saturday, November 16-17	Nevada State Teachers Association	Elko, NV	M. Powell, Project Office

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
D. <u>NRC Interactions</u>			
Monday, November 11	NRC QA Meeting	Washington, DC	TBD
Wednesday- Thursday, November 28-29	TE on Performance Assessment	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office
Thursday - Friday, November 8-9	TE on CHRBA	Denver, CO	A. Simmons, Project Office
Wednesday, November 21	TE on ESF Scoring	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office
E. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u>			
Monday, October 22	NWTRB Transportation and Systems Panel Meeting	Washington, DC	W. Dixon, Project Office
Tuesday, November 20	NWTRB TE on ESF Scoring	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office
Monday - Tuesday, October 15-16	Environment and Public Health Panel Meeting	Reno, NV	W. Dixon, Project Office
Thursday - Friday, November 1-2	NWTRB QA Panel Meeting	Arlington, VA	M. Blanchard, Project Office
Tuesday, November 21	TE on ESF Scoring	Albuquerque, NM	A. Simmons, Project Office

YMP:DLH-451



Carl F. Gertz, Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Project Office