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

FEB 19 1992

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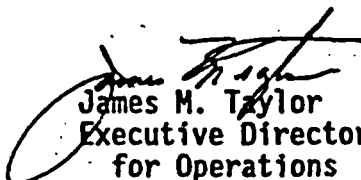
MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
- Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque

FROM: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: REVISED TIMELINE OF THE HIGH-LEVEL WASTE PROGRAM

On January 15, 1992, I provided for your information a two-page timeline of the High-Level Waste Program (HLW) recently developed by staff. Enclosed is a revised Page 1 of the timeline which differs from the original Page 1 only with respect to certain details of the line portraying the State of Nevada's participation in the HLW program. Specifically, the numbers of NRC-DOE meetings held and the numbers of meetings attended by the State of Nevada have been revised based upon further examination of the meeting records.

It is important to note that an understanding of the extent of the State of Nevada's participation in the HLW program from year to year cannot be obtained merely by an examination of these numbers. NRC-DOE meetings are routinely announced well in advance of their occurrence, and the State is specifically invited to attend. For a variety of reasons, the State has sometimes declined the invitation. In addition, on some occasions when the State has attended, it has chosen to act as an observer rather than to participate in the discussions. Hence, in using this timeline, the limitations of the information provided should be recognized.


James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: SECY
OGC

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PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

Timeline of the High-Level Waste Program Repository Program

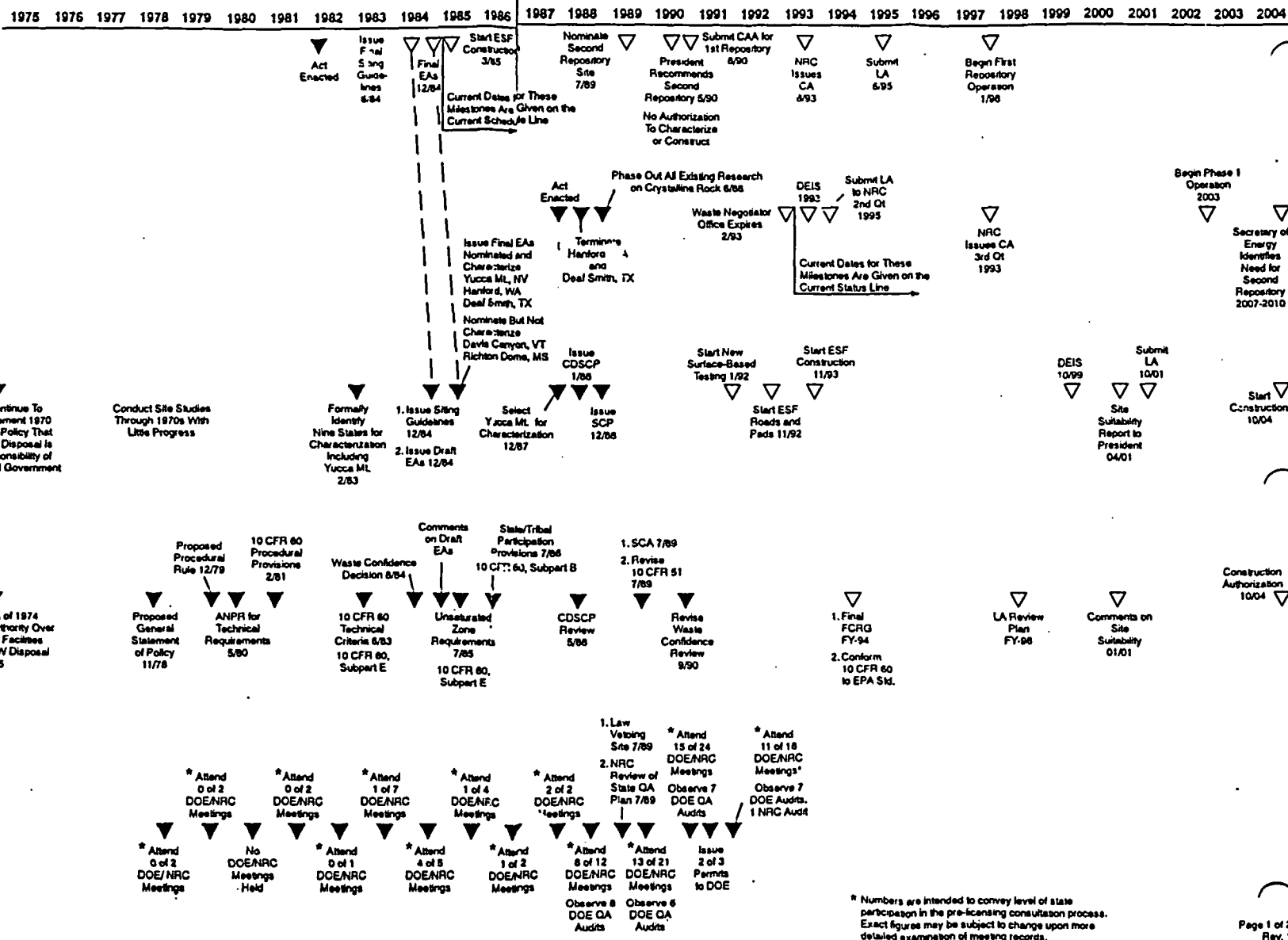
**NPA Statutory
Milestones
Dates From
DOE 1985
Mission Plan**

**NWPAA Statutory
Milestones
Dates From DOE
1987 Mission
Plan Amendment**

**Current
Schedule
DOE 1991
Project
Decision
Schedule**

**NRC
Activities**

**STATE OF
NEVADA**



* Numbers are intended to convey level of state participation in the pre-licensing consultation process. Exact figures may be subject to change upon more detailed examination of meeting records.

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ONE HUNDRED SECOND CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-371-B-C
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

July 9, 1991

The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I congratulate you on your new position as Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. By way of introduction, the Subcommittee on Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources of the House Government Operations Committee has oversight authorities over the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), among other agencies. The authorities of the Subcommittee in this area are enumerated under Rules X and XI of the House of Representatives and the standing rules of the Committee on Government Operations.

In recent years, the Subcommittee has been especially interested in the NRC's policies regarding the decontamination and decommissioning of NRC licensed facilities and materials licenses. The Subcommittee expects to continue to examine these areas as well as such other matters that may arise in the future, and we look forward to your cooperation.

As you may know, the Subcommittee has had a longstanding oversight interest in U.S. Department of Energy's efforts to construct and operate the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The NRC does not now have a role in the regulation of this facility, but it is the Subcommittee's understanding that on May 28, 1991 the Office of Management and Budget requested the NRC's views on the feasibility of establishing such a role for NRC.

In this regard, the Subcommittee respectfully requests that you supply the NRC's response to OMB to the Subcommittee. In addition, the Subcommittee requests the following information:

1(a) Identify all NRC offices currently responsible for regulating the proposed high-level radioactive waste repository planned for Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

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1(b) For each office identified above, provide the number of FTE's and the funding allocated for these activities.

2(a) Describe the NRC's responsibility for implementing the applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards for high-level waste management and disposal under 40 CFR Part 191.

2(b) Describe any technical differences between the types of analyses and actions necessary for the implementation of 40 CFR Part 191 for high-level waste at Yucca Mountain and implementation of these same regulations for transuranic waste at WIPP.

3) Provide an estimate of the additional FTE's and resources, for each office identified in Item #1a, required for the NRC to carry out the role of implementing EPA management and disposal standards for transuranic waste at WIPP.

In anticipation of Subcommittee hearings in the near future, I request that the NRC provide the requested information and documents later than July 31, 1991. If you have any questions concerning this request, please have your staff contact David Berick of the Subcommittee staff at 202-225-6427.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Synar", written over the typed name.

MIKE SYNAR
Chairman