



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

Reply to:
301 East Stewart Ave., #203
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Tel: (702) 388-6125
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TO: David Brooks, Acting Director, HLPD, M/S 4 H 3

FROM: Paul T. Prestholt and John W. Gilray
Sr. On-Site Licensing Representatives

DATE: January 8, 1991

SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS, i.e., OFFICE
OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report for
the week of December 13, 20, and 27, 1991.

There is nothing requiring specific management
attention in the reports.

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cc w/encs.: King Stablein, M/S 4 H 3
Harold R. Denton, M/S 17 F 2
Dean Kunihiro, Region 5

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Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
Project Office
P. O. Box 98608
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

WBS 1.2.9.2
QA: N/A

JAN 02 1992

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

OFFICE OF GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL (OGD) WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING
DECEMBER 27, 1991

I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT
(YMP)

A. Site Characterization Planning

Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Task Force Activities

The Engineering Plan for the first construction package of the ESF
was approved.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report

No significant new items to report this week.

SCP Study Plan (SP) Status

No significant new items to report this week.

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

In Screening Review	1
In Revision after Screening Review	1
In Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project	
Office (YMPO) and U.S. Department of Energy	
Headquarters (HQ) Review	6
Awaiting Comment Resolution Meeting	4
Awaiting Author Revision	13
In YMPO/HQ Verification Audit	7
Awaiting YMPO Approval	0

JAN 02 1992

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN (continued)

Approved and Awaiting transmittal to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)	3
NRC Phase 1 Review	14
NRC Acceptance	18
Total	67

Received Comments from the State of Nevada	8
Response Transmitted to the State of Nevada	5

Received Comments from NRC	8
Responses Transmitted from OGD to HQ	5
Responses Transmitted from HQ to NRC	4

Early Site Suitability Evaluation

No significant new items to report this week.

B. Environmental ProgramsEnvironmental Compliance and Permitting

No significant new items to report this week.

C. Field Operations

As of the week ending December 20, 1991, Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo) drilling engineers, personnel from Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN), and the Field Operations Center (FOC) worked a dual shift from 8 a.m. to midnight, commencing with the initial drilling of the water table well for JF-3. During the Christmas holidays through January 1, 1992, drilling operations at YMP will be at a standdown (no activities).

The Site Manager and FOC staff are preparing for three significant tours in January 1992. These include a congressional tour of approximately 60 people on January 9, 1992; a tour on January 13, 1992, for the new chairman of NRC and some members of his staff; and on January 22, 1992, the first general public Open House and Site Tour for calendar year 1992. The normal preparations for bus transportation, operations, logistics, feeding, and site control will be put into effect.

D. Project Planning and Control

No significant new items to report this week.

E. Quality Assurance Implementation

No significant new items to report this week.

Determination of Importance and Grading Enhancement

No significant new items to report this week.

F. Public Outreach and Institutional Activities

No significant new items to report this week.

G. Systems Management and IntegrationGeochemistry

No significant new items to report this week.

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

No significant new items to report this week.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMSYMPO

The Energy System Acquisition Advisory Board Meeting was held December 20, 1991. There were no issues or concerns raised by the Board, and the approval letter is being circulated for formal concurrence this week.

RSN

The Management and Technical Review of the drawings and specifications for the UZ-16 drill hole was started.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)

An analytical model of the Engineered Barrier System source term was provided to Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) for the initial Total Systems Performance Assessment. The source term model assigns a distribution of local waste package environments which are correlated with the total system hydrology parameters. Then the model sums the effects of all the waste packages to develop the integrated source term. The model considers container breaches, borehole hydrology, geomechanical conditions, and spent fuel dissolution with waste transport into the nearby host rock.

SNL

The YMPO approved the presentation/publication of 17 technical papers for the 1992 High-Level Waste Conference.

Participant Holiday Schedule

Los Alamos National Laboratory, RSN, U.S. Geological Survey, and REECO will be closed for the holidays on December 25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; LLNL will be closed December 24, 25, and 31, 1991, and January 1, 1992; Science Applications International Corporation will be closed December 24-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; MAC Technical Services Company will be closed December 23-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; TRW Environmental Safety Systems will be closed from December 25, 1991, through January 1, 1992; and SNL will be closed from December 24, 1991, through January 1, 1992.

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Please note that the usage of "(P)" in the calendar indicates that the event is open to the public. Educational presentations and state and public interactions are handled by the Speakers Bureau; contact Linda Artis at (702) 794-7896 for additional information. Exhibits are handled by Kevin Rohrer at (702) 794-7769, and tours are handled by Mindy Wadkins at (702) 794-7374.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
A. <u>DOE/HQ Meetings</u>			
Thursday, January 16, 1992	Program Management Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
B. <u>Internal and DOE/NV Meetings</u>			
Wednesday, January 15, 1992	NV Program Review	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz
C. <u>NRC Interactions</u>			
Tuesday, January 28, 1992	Management Meeting Annotated Outline	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>NRC Interactions</u> (continued)			
Tuesday, February 25, 1992	Waste Form	TBD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, March 17, 1992	Thermal Loads	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
Wednesday, March 18, 1992	Air, Vapor Movements Due to Thermal Gradients	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
Tuesday- Wednesday, April 28-29, 1992	Complimentary Cumulative Distribution Function	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
Tuesday, May 19, 1992	Interactions Schedulings	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, May 27, 1992	DOE Licensing Topical Report on Erosion	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, June 3, 1992	Drafts on License Application	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, July 1, 1992	Calcite/Silica	TBD	J. Cooper
D. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (P)			
Tuesday- Wednesday, January 7-8, 1992	YMP Update	Washington, DC	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, January 22-23, 1992	SG&G Panel Meeting on Seismic Vulnerabilities	Irvine, CA	A. Simmons

JAN 02 1992

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
D. <u>NWTRB Interactions (P) (continued)</u>			
Monday-Tuesday, February 10-11, 1992	Engineered Barrier System	Savannah River, GA	A. Simmons
Wednesday-Thursday, February 12-13, 1992	NWTRB T&S Panel	TBA	A. Simmons

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
E. <u>State and Public Interactions</u>			
Friday, January 3, 1992	Minact, Inc.	Las Vegas, NV	R. Gonzales
Saturday, January 4, 1992	Community Radiation Monitoring Program	Las Vegas, NV	M. Foley
Saturday, January 4, 1992	Community Radiation Monitoring Program	Las Vegas, NV	M. Foley
Monday, January 6, 1992	Las Vegas Cactus & Succulent Society	Las Vegas, NV	R. Arnold
Friday, January 17, 1992	International Association of Business Communicators	Las Vegas, NV	A. Robison
Friday, January 24, 1992	American Nuclear Society Annual Symposium	Gainesville, FL	C. Gertz
Monday, January 27, 1992	Green Valley Library	Henderson, NV	J. King
Tuesday, January 28, 1992	Yucca Mountain Lecture Series - Earthquakes	Las Vegas, NV	J. King

JAN 02 1992

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
E. <u>State and Public Interactions</u> (continued)			
Thursday, January 30, 1992	Yucca Mountain Lecture Series - Earthquakes	Beatty, NV	J. King
Saturday, February 8, 1992	Girl Scout Merit Badge Workshop	Las Vegas, NV	E. Harle
Tuesday, February 11, 1992	Ronzzone Elementary School	Las Vegas, NV	R. Arnold
Tuesday, February 11, 1992	Green Valley Library	Henderson, NV	G. Fasano
Saturday, March 7, 1992	Boy Scout Atomic Energy Merit Badge Workshop	Las Vegas, NV	E. Harle
Tuesday, March 10, 1992	Green Valley Library	Henderson, NV	R. Arnold
Saturday, March 28, 1992	Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge Workshop	Las Vegas, NV	Various

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
F. <u>Exhibits Scheduled</u>		
Wednesday, January 22, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Las Vegas, NV
Friday-Sunday, February 14-16, 1992	Society of Women Engineers	Las Vegas, NV
Saturday, February 29, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Las Vegas, NV

JAN 02 1992

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
F. <u>Exhibits Scheduled</u> (continued)		
Saturday, March 28, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Las Vegas, NV
Saturday, April 25, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Las Vegas, NV
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Escorts</u>
G. <u>Tours Scheduled</u>		
Thursday, January 9, 1992	Congressional Tour	Various Escorts
Friday January 10, 1992	SAIC Meetings Week	Various Escorts
Monday, January 13, 1992	Ivan Selin, NRC Chairman	Various Escorts
Wednesday, January 15, 1992	Cactus, Water, and Energy Conservation	Various Escorts
Wednesday, January 22, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts
Thursday, January 23, 1992	UNLV	M. Powell
Thursday, February 6, 1992	RV Rally Armagosa Valley	TBD
Monday, February 10, 1992	UK Nirex	C. Gertz

JAN 02 1992

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Escorts</u>
G. <u>Tours Scheduled</u> (continued)		
Friday, February 14, 1992	Chaparral High School	L. Thompson
Saturday, March 28, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts
Saturday, February 29, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts
Saturday, April 25, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts

YMP:DLH-1447



Carl P. Gertz
Project Manager



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WBS 1.2.9.2
QA: N/A

DEC 27 1991

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DECEMBER 20, 1991

I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT
(YMP)

A. Site Characterization Planning

Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Task Force Activities

As part of the Title II design effort, the ESF Design Requirements (DR) document has been reviewed to ensure compatibility with the Title I Design and current project needs. Comments from an informal review, by YMP participants, of the DR were collected by YMPO. These comments will be used to update DR as a prelude to its formal Quality Management Procedure (QMP)-06-04 review.

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report

No significant new items to report this week.

SCP Study Plan (SP) Status

A comment resolution telecon was held with U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) for SP 8.3.1.4.2.1, Characterization of the Vertical and Lateral Distribution of Stratigraphic units in the Site Area.

The following SPs were approved by the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) and are awaiting transmittal to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC): 8.3.1.2.1.4, Regional Hydrologic Synthesis and Modeling; 8.3.1.3.2.2, History of Mineralogic and Geochemical Alteration of Yucca Mountain; and 8.3.1.17.3.1, Relevant Earthquake Sources.

The NRC has completed the Phase 1 Acceptance Review and found no objections to SPs 8.3.1.2.3 (activities 1-6), 8.3.1.2.3 (activity 7), and 8.3.1.5.1.4, Analysis of the Paleoenvironmental History of the Yucca Mountain Site.

The State of Nevada has reviewed and provided comments on SP 8.3.1.2.1.1, Characterization of Meteorology For Regional Hydrology.

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

In Screening Review	1
In Revision after Screening review	1
In YMPO and HQ Review	6
Awaiting Comment Resolution Meeting	4
Awaiting Author Revision	13
In YMPO/HQ Verification Audit	7
Awaiting YMPO Approval	0
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Early Site Suitability Evaluation (ESSE)

The external peer review phase of the ESSE effort is nearly complete. All proposed resolutions to the nearly 240 peer review comments have been negotiated and accepted by the reviewers. The ESSE Core Team and staff are now incorporating those accepted resolutions into the ESSE Report, in preparation for the programmatic review by YMPO, prior to transmittal of the report to the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) Director at the end of January 1992. In parallel with the ESSE Report, ESSE staff continues to produce the Peer Review Report.

B. Environmental Programs

Environmental Compliance and Permitting

No significant new items to report this week.

DEC 27 1991

C. Field Operations

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo), continues to monitor water delivery for dust control use. As of December 18, 1991, a total of 143,500 gallons of water were hauled. On December 17, 1991, REECo rigged up, drilled, and set the mouse hole in preparation for Well JF-3, water monitoring well, BIR 800. The rig safety inspection was conducted with REECo safety and operating equipment engineers, and DOE personnel. During the past week, two sessions of the defensive driving course were conducted. A total of 53 people attended the classes.

The Sample Management Facility (SMF) continued processing core and cuttings from USW-UZN-54. A total of 95 core specimens were removed from UZN-54. Twelve core boxes from C2 and C3 were laid out for examination.

The SMF began preparations to support USW-UZN-37. Support for drilling operations on JF-3 continued, including night shift.

D. Project Planning and Control

Planning and Control System (PACS) Planning and Scheduling Account Input Verification Reports were distributed to participants for their review after the input of scope and header data for fiscal year (FY) 1992 planning. Input of resource (budget) data was initiated into participant summary accounts. This input will result in the formulation of a new Project Cost and Schedule Baseline. An analysis of the relationship between PACS and the Job Package process was completed with recommendations for YMPO action to improve the process. Congressional FY 1993 budget input was prepared. Initial integration of the Long Range Plan with the exception of the Management and Operating Contractor (TRW Environmental Safety Systems [TESS]), schedule was completed.

E. Quality Assurance Implementation

An audit of Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN) was conducted during the week of December 16, 1991. The criteria audited included procurement and inspection. No deficiencies were identified during the course of the audit.

Determination of Importance and Grading Enhancement (DIGE)

The following is a summary status of the five major elements of the DIGE effort:

1. Continuation of the Quality Review Board and associated Assessment Team continue to provide support to YMPO while the DIGE effort develops the new processes.

2. The Q-List and Q-List Procedure Development efforts continue to provide direction and authorization to RSN and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) to begin their design update efforts. Letters (to provide direction) are in YMPO with an anticipated release by December 20, 1991. TESS has received verbal direction to begin the Technical Assessment Review. Confirmation, in accordance with QMP-02-08, is expected by December 20, 1991. Comments continue to be resolved for the QMP-06-04 review of the proposed revision to Administrative Procedure-6.17Q.
3. Management Control System (MCS) List and Procedure Development preparations are complete to conduct a simulation of MCS List procedure. Specifications for a requirements database continue to be developed to support the requirements portion of MCS effort.
4. Participant List Procedure Development is scheduled to begin January 3, 1992, in parallel with completion of DIGE procedure development.
5. A final draft of the Management Plan has been developed and is currently in YMPO review.

F. Public Outreach and Institutional Activities

Technical Project Overview presentations were given on December 14, 1991, by Gregory Fasano, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), to members of the Presbyterian Men's Association; and on December 17, 1991, by Paul Standish of SAIC, to the Southeast Valley Exchange Club.

A tour to Yucca Mountain was conducted on Tuesday, December 17, 1991, for John Davidson, a newspaper reporter with the San Francisco Examiner.

G. Systems Management and Integration

Geochemistry

No significant new items to report this week.

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Participated in a comment resolution teleconference under the Implementing Line Procedure (ILP) 22.3.1 review procedure for SP:

- 8.3.1.4.2.1: Characterization of the Vertical and Lateral Distribution of Stratigraphic Units within the Site Area.

Attended John Bartlett's annual presentation to NRC on the status of OCRWM on December 17, 1991, in Rockville, Maryland.

Attended 38th Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) Meeting session on Technical Position on Identification of Fault Displacement and Seismic-Hazards on December 18, 1991, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Participated in Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board Meeting on request for approval of YMP milestones related to start of ESF Design (KD-2) and comprehensive site characterization testing (KDX), on December 20, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

Participated in briefing to DOE on American Society of Civil Engineers Working Group position on Seismic Hazard Evaluation on December 16, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

Attended ACNW Working Group Meeting on concerns related to seismic and faulting investigations for a geologic repository, December 17, 1991, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Participated in meeting with RW-4 on issues related to, and preparation of responses to comments on the draft Mission Plan Amendment on December 16, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

Participated in a comment resolution teleconference under ILP 22.3.1 review procedure for SP:

- 8.3.1.4.2.1: Characterization of the Vertical and Lateral Distribution of Stratigraphic Units within the Site Area.

Participated in a DOE/NRC teleconference on December 18, 1991, on SP:

- 8.3.1.14.2: SP to Provide Soil and Rock Properties for Potential Locations of Surface Facilities and Subsurface Access Facilities.

Participated in meeting for review of SNL proposed process for determining characteristics of alluvium which are important to waste isolation, on December 16, 1991, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Participated in the TESS Readiness Review Team summary presentation to the Readiness Review Board on December 18, 1991, in Fairfax, Virginia.

Participated in dry run for meeting with Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board on program budget and priorities on December 17-18, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos)

Completed an informal review of a potential DR update and submitted the comments to YMPO. An evaluation of the ESF's north portal/location was submitted to RSN. The evaluation results will enable determining the preferred portal alignment for site characterization testing.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)

During a recent international workshop in Engineered Barrier Systems, the participants made the following points about the United States program:

The 10,000-year regulatory limit is artificial and should not be used as a fixed target for designs and analysis.

Limited-term commitments to inspection and monitoring should be carefully evaluated. Public pressure may prevent the scheduled cessation of these activities.

The impact of thermal excursion on fractures and hydrology needs to be studied. Also needing study are the properties of the unsaturated units at elevated temperatures.

SAIC

Received and resolved comments from participants in the QMP-06-04 review of the ESF Plan and YMP Design Plan.

TESS

A post QMP-06-04 review of the YMP Risk Management Plan was conducted. The input for the status report on Value Engineering in FY 1991 by YMPO was developed.

REECo

Made a presentation at the first bimonthly progress meeting with TESS on Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) Elements 1.2.1 and 1.2.6.

RSN

Made a presentation at the first bimonthly progress meeting with TESS on WBS Elements 1.2.1 and 1.2.6.

DEC 27 1991

Participant Holiday Schedule

Los Alamos, RSN, U.S. Geological Survey, and REECO will be closed for the holidays on December 25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; LLNL will be closed December 24, 25, and 31, 1991, and January 1, 1992; SAIC will be closed December 24-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; MAC Technical Services Company will be closed December 23-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; TESS will be closed from December 25, 1991, through January 1, 1992; and SNL will be closed from December 24, 1991, through January 1, 1992.

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Tuesday, January 28, 1992	Management Meeting Annotated Outline	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, February 25, 1992	Waste Form	TBD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, March 17, 1992	Thermal Loads	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>NRC Interactions</u> (Continued)			
Wednesday, March 18, 1992	Air, Vapor Movements due to Thermal Gradients	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
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Tuesday, May 19, 1992	Interactions Schedulings	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, May 27, 1992	DOE licensing topical report on erosion	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, June 3, 1992	Drafts on license application	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, July 1, 1992	Calcite Silica	TBD	J. Cooper
D. <u>NWTRB Interactions</u> (P)			
Tuesday- Wednesday, January 7-8, 1992	YMP Update	Washington, DC	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, January 22-23, 1992	SG&G Panel Meeting on Seismic Vulnerabilities	Irvine, CA	A. Simmons
Monday- Tuesday, February 10-11, 1992	Engineered Barrier System	Savannah River, GA	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, February 12-13, 1992	NWTRB T&S Panel	TBA	A. Simmons

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
<u>E. State and Public Interactions</u>			
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Saturday, January 4, 1992	Community Radiation Monitoring Program	Las Vegas, NV	M. Foley
Friday, January 3, 1992	Minact, Inc.	Las Vegas, NV	R. Gonzales
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Tuesday, February 11, 1992	Green Valley Library	Henderson, NV	G. Fasano

DEC 27 1991

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
E. <u>State and Public Interactions</u> (Continued)			
Saturday, March 7, 1992	Boy Scout Atomic Energy Merit Badge Workshop	Las Vegas, NV	E. Harle
Saturday, March 28, 1992	Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge Workshop	Las Vegas, NV	Various

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
F. <u>Exhibits Scheduled</u>		
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Escorts</u>
G. <u>Tours Scheduled</u>		
Wednesday, January 8, 1992	Ivan Selin, NRC Chairman	Various Escorts
Thursday, January 9, 1992	Congressional Tour	Various Escorts
Friday, January 17, 1992	Chaparral High School	L. Thompson

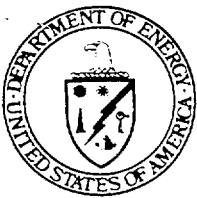
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Escorts</u>
G. <u>Tours Scheduled</u> (Continued)		
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Monday, February 10, 1992	UK Nirex	C. Gertz
Saturday, February 29, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts
Saturday, March 28, 1992	Public Open House (P)	Various Escorts



Carl P. Gertz
Project Manager

YMP:DLH-1400



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QA: N/A

DEC 20 1991

John W. Bartlett, Director, Civilian Radioactive Waste Management,
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DECEMBER 13, 1991

I. CRITICAL ITEM STATUS - YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT
(YMP)

A. Site Characterization Planning

Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Task Force Activities

The ESF Design Review is in informal review and comments are due by December 17, 1991. Grading Report EDD-004 was approved by the Quality Review Board (QRB).

Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Progress Report (PR)

No significant new items to report this week.

SCP Study Plan (SP) Status

The SP 8.3.1.5.2.1, "Paleoclimate Study: Lake, Playa, and Marsh Deposits," was transmitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for their review.

The State of Nevada has reviewed and commented on SP 8.3.1.12.2.1, "Meteorological Data Collection at the Yucca Mountain Site."

STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN

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STUDY PLAN BREAKDOWN (Continued)

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Verification Complete-Awaiting HQ Sign-off	0
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Total	67

Received Comments from the State of Nevada	7
Response Transmitted to the State of Nevada	5

Received Comments from the NRC	6
Responses Transmitted from OGD to HQ	5
Responses Transmitted from HQ	4

Early Site Suitability Evaluation (ESSE)

The ESSE effort continues in the peer review comment response/resolution phase. Of the almost 240 comments provided by the reviewers, responses have been developed for all of them, and resolution/acceptance of the responses have been obtained for one-third of the comments. The ESSE staff continues to prepare the ESSE Report and associated Peer Review Report based on the noted responses.

B. Environmental ProgramsEnvironmental Compliance and Permitting

No significant new items to report this week.

C. Field Operations

A successful general public open house and site tour of Yucca Mountain was held December 7, 1991.

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. (REECo), completed site preparations for the JF-3 water table monitoring well, which is located approximately one-half mile south of Well J-12. Pursuant to a meeting held December 11, 1991, between DOE and YMP participants, a 16-hour drilling schedule will commence December 16-20, 1991, and January 6-10, 1992, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The activity is relevant to the project in that it

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fulfills a commitment to the National Park Service for groundwater levels and spring flows monitoring in the Yucca Mountain region of Southern Nevada and California. The actual drilling operations are expected to start by December 12, 1991.

Pursuant to a decision made by DOE that we now have double drilling shifts for Well JF-3, there is now a stand-down for beginning the third hole on the neutron access borehole program. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), principal investigator, has concurred with the temporary stand-down technique. The drill crews for this program have been shifted to the JF-3 drilling program for two weeks.

All Sample Management Facility (SMF) and Field Operations Center (FOC) staff attended a defensive driving course seminar.

The SMF received 21 boxes of core and cuttings from UZN-54 and continued field support for UZN-54 Borehole where a total depth of 244.7 feet was reached on December 9, 1991.

D. Project Planning and Control

The Change Control Board (CCB) organized a task force to review the Configuration Management and CCB processes and recommends methods to make the system more user friendly.

The presentation for Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board was finalized, and the date for the meeting was changed to December 20, 1991.

E. Quality Assurance Implementation

No significant new items to report this week.

Determination of Importance and Grading Enhancement (DIGE)

The DIGE effort consists of developing the necessary processes and procedures for identifying a performance based Q-List and Management Control System (MCS) list together with the characteristics, which are important to the classification and control of items on these lists. Until revised procedures are available (a point at which a transition to these procedures can occur) the current QRB and Assessment Team will continue to function in accordance with Administrative Procedure (AP)-6.17Q and AP-5.28Q. Following is a summary status of these efforts:

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The DIGE Management Plan is in final stages of development. Resolution of funding and schedule values is anticipated this week with issuance of the plan by the week of December 16, 1991. In the interim, the following activity status prevails:

Requests are being processed for the design-related efforts to be conducted by Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN) and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), which are a prerequisite to the development of a performance based Q-List.

The SNL is preparing for a review of the proposed process for identifying the characteristics of the alluvium which are important to waste isolation. This review will be conducted during the week of December 16, 1991.

A revision of AP-6.17Q is in Quality Management Procedure-06-04. All comments have been received and are being resolved.

In support of the MCS list process, five documents have been selected for extraction of requirements.

Requirements of these five documents are being examined and compared to the verbatim test contained in the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) databased Management Systems Improvement Strategy.

F. Public Outreach and Institutional Activities

The tenth Open House Tour of Yucca Mountain was conducted on Saturday, December 7, 1991. Over 140 tour participants visited the Yucca Mountain Information Office (YMIO), Las Vegas, Nevada, FOC, and Yucca Mountain.

Jean Younker addressed the American Medical Association House of Delegates and the Nevada State Medical Association on December 9, 1991, regarding a resolution against a nuclear repository at Yucca Mountain.

Presentations on the Yucca Mountain cultural resources program were given by Richard Arnold at O.K. Adcock Elementary School on December 10, 1991, and at Indian Springs Elementary School, Indian Springs, Nevada, on December 11, 1991.

Technical project overview presentations were given on December 10, 1991, to the Capital City Rotary Club, Carson City, Nevada, by William Andrews and at the Society for Risk Analysis 1991 Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, by Maxwell Blanchard.

John W. Bartlett

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During this reporting period, educational presentations were made at Valley High School, Las Vegas, Nevada, by John Waddell on December 10, 1991, and by Steven Smith on December 12, 1991; at M. J. Christensen School by James Blink on December 11, 1991, and by Michael Voegele on December 12, 1991; and at Basic High School by Dennis Sorensen on December 11, 1991.

A tour to Yucca Mountain was conducted on December 11, 1991, for Westinghouse Environmental Management Company of Ohio. Prior to departure from the YMIO, a brief project overview presentation was given by A. C. Robison.

G. Systems Management and Integration

Geochemistry

No significant new items to report this week.

II. ANALYSIS & VERIFICATION DIVISION

Completed review of the fifth draft of site characterization PR on December 9, 1991.

Attended communications training on December 11-13, 1991, in Richmond, Virginia.

Reviewed and supplied comments on the Mined Geologic Disposal System (MGDS) License Application Annotated Outline Planning Package, Revision 1.

Provided review comments on preliminary draft General Accounting Office (GAO) report titled "Statement of Findings on Audit of Nuclear Waste Management Program."

Participated in meeting with GAO representatives to discuss OCRWM review comments on preliminary draft GAO report on December 9, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

Participated in meeting to discuss OCRWM actions with respect to development of memorandum of agreement with Environmental Restoration and Waste Management on defense waste processing and completion of documentation to support the Waste Acceptance Preliminary Specifications on December 11, 1991, in Washington, D.C.

Reviewed the fourth Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board report to Congress.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMSYMP

Edgar Petrie, DOE/Engineering and Development Division, participated in a meeting of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (SEAB) dealing with the subject of the MGDS Operational Concept held at OCRWM.

TRW Environmental Safety Systems (TESS)

TESS has initiated a readiness review for quality-affecting work. OCRWM and YMPO are participating in the review, December 10-18, 1991.

SNL

Provided information and personnel in support of the SEAB Meeting at OCRWM.

Participant Holiday Schedule

Los Alamos National Laboratory, RSN, USGS, and REEC Co will be closed for the holidays on December 25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will be closed December 24, 25, and 31, 1991, and January 1, 1992; Science Applications International Corporation will be closed December 24-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; MAC Technical Services Company will be closed December 23-25, 1991, and January 1, 1992; TESS will be closed from December 25, 1991, through January 1, 1992; and SNL will be closed from December 24, 1991, through January 1, 1992.

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Please note that the usage of "(P)" in the calendar indicates that the event is open to the public. Educational presentations and state and public interactions are handled by the Speakers Bureau; contact Linda Artis at (702) 794-7896 for additional information. Exhibits are handled by Kevin Rohrer at (702) 794-7769, and tours are handled by Mindy Wadkins at (702) 794-7374.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
A. <u>DOE/HQ Meetings</u>			
Thursday, January 16 1992	Program Management Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	C. Gertz

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
B. <u>Internal and DOE/NV Meetings</u>			
Friday, December 13	TPO Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	M. Blanchard
Friday, December 13	Planning & Budget Meeting	Las Vegas,	M. Blanchard
C. <u>NRC Interactions</u>			
Thursday, December 12	Briefing on EEO Program	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Thursday, December 12	Affirmation/Discussion Vote	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Thursday, December 12	Meeting with Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, December 17	Briefing on Regulatory Application of PRA	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Thursday, December 19	Periodic Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Thursday, December 19	Affirmation/Discussion and Vote	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Thursday, December 19	Status of Technical Specifications Improvement Program	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, January 28, 1992	Management Meeting Annotated Outline	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, February 25, 1992	Waste Form	TBD	J. Cooper
Tuesday, March 17, 1992	Thermal Loads	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>YMPO Contact</u>
C. <u>NRC Interactions</u> (continued)			
Wednesday, March 18, 1992	Air, Vapor Movements due to Thermal Gradients	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
Tuesday- Wednesday, April 28-29, 1992	Complimentary Cumulative Distribution Function	Albuquerque, NM	J. Cooper
Tuesday, May 19, 1992	Interactions Schedulings	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, May 27, 1992	DOE licensing topical report on erosion	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
Wednesday, June 3, 1992	Drafts on license application	Rockville, MD	J. Cooper
D. <u>NWTRB Interactions (P)</u>			
Tuesday- Wednesday, January 7-8, 1992	YMP Update	Washington, DC	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, January 22-23, 1992	SG&G Panel Meeting on Seismic Vulnerabilities	Irvine, CA	A. Simmons
Monday- Tuesday, February 10-11, 1992	Engineered Barrier System	Savannah River, GA	A. Simmons
Wednesday- Thursday, February 12-13, 1992	NWTRB T&S Panel	TBA	A. Simmons