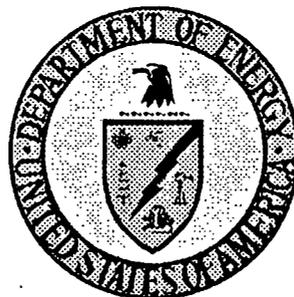


STATUS AND PRIORITIES OF THE CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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**ANNUAL MEETING
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD**

July 16, 1991

RW042206.01

TOPICS ADDRESSED

- Current Program Status
- Policy and Strategy Foundations for Priorities
- Current Program Priorities
- Current Issues Associated With Priorities and Budgets

EMPHASIS

- Overview of Technical Program Priorities, Activities, and Issues

CURRENT PROGRAM STATUS

GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL

- New Surface-Based Testing Started
- Aiming for November 1992 Start of ESF Portal
- First Phase Effort on Site Suitability Evaluation Methodology Near Completion
- Technical Issue Closure Strategy and Methodology Under Active Consideration
- New Foundations for EBS Program and Design Under Development

CURRENT PROGRAM STATUS

MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE

- Planning Base Is Agreement With Host by End of 1992
- Generic Design, Environmental Documentation and Licensing Work Proceeding
- Negotiator Has Received Expressions of Interest
- DOE Responds to Negotiator Requests for Support Expeditiously

CURRENT PROGRAM STATUS

TRANSPORTATION

- Technology Program Revision to Two-Phase Approach Near Completion
 - Use Current Technology for 1998 Receipt of Spent Fuel
 - R&D for Second-Generation Technology

- Operational Framework Evaluations Proceeding
 - Regulations
 - Emergency Response
 - Privatization
 - Risk Issues

CURRENT PROGRAM STATUS

SPENT FUEL RECEIPT

- Inventory of Receipt Conditions Near Completion
- Working Relationship With Utilities Evolving

PROGRAM OPERATIONS

- Draft Mission Plan Amendment To Be Released for Comment in Two Weeks
- Contingencies and Options Under Continuing Evaluation

POLICY AND STRATEGY FOUNDATIONS FOR PRIORITIES

POLICY FOUNDATIONS

- Secretary's Plan
 - Begin Spent Fuel Receipt in 1998
 - Begin Disposal in 2010
- Pre-Decisional Involvement of Interested and Affected Parties
- Open and Comprehensive Technical Exchanges
- Systems Approach in Basis for Decisions
- Preserve Flexibility As Much As Possible

POLICY AND STRATEGY FOUNDATIONS FOR PRIORITIES

STRATEGY FOUNDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL PROGRAM

PRE-DISPOSAL

- Integrate Plans and Activities for 1998 Spent Fuel Receipt
- Take Advantage of Existing Conditions
- Seek To Privatize
- Work Closely With Utilities and Negotiator

DISPOSAL

- Evaluate Yucca Mountain Site Suitability ASAP
- Seek To Close Site Technical Issues ASAP
- Emphasize Site Data Acquisition in Near Term
 - For Issue Closure
 - For Site Suitability Evaluation
 - As a Basis for EBS Design
- Base EBS Design and Program on First Principles AMAP

POLICY AND STRATEGY FOUNDATIONS FOR PRIORITIES

STRATEGY FOUNDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL PROGRAM

MANAGEMENT

- Acquire As Much Technical Data Base for Major Decisions As Reasonable
- Base Major Decisions on Comprehensive, Robust Tradeoff Evaluations
- Take Initiatives in Regulatory Compliance
- Apply Strategic Principles in Decision-Making

CURRENT PROGRAM PRIORITIES

PRE-DISPOSAL

- Provide All Essential Support to Negotiator for MRS Siting
- Assure Availability of Essential Equipment and Logistics for Spent Fuel Receipt in 1998

DISPOSAL

- Acquire and Interpret Data for Site Suitability Evaluation
- Develop Foundations for Focused EBS Program

MANAGEMENT

- Provide MRS, Transportation, and Logistics Budgets Needed To Begin Spent Fuel Receipt in 1998
- Optimize Disposal Program Budget Allocations To Meet Objective of Site Suitability Evaluation ASAP
- Seek Program Budgets From Congress Needed To Meet Secretary's Goals

CURRENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH PRIORITIES AND BUDGETS

- Rate of Progress With MRS Site and Design Selection
- Timing and Amount of Transportation System Funding Needed To Meet Objectives
- Relative Contributions of Surface-Based and Underground Data to Site Suitability Evaluation
- Cost-Benefit of Sustaining Present ESF Schedule
- Potential Impact of Permits Availability on Yucca Mountain Progress and Activities
- Resources Required To Develop and Implement Appropriate EBS Program
- Impacts on Priorities and Schedules if Budgets Are Constrained

OCRWM BUDGET STRATEGY

- Seek Funds To Meet Secretary's Goals
 - Start Spent Fuel Receipt at MRS in 1998
 - Start Disposal in 2010

- Allocation of Funds Available
 - Fund MRS and Transportation for 1998 Start
 - Meet Basic Management and Support Obligations
 - Allocate Disposal Funds per Tradeoff Study Results
 - Pace of Exploratory Studies Facility Progress
 - Progress in Surface-Based Testing
 - Progress in EBS and Waste Package Design
 - Progress in Site Suitability Evaluation
 - Progress in Issue Closure