



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD  
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300  
Arlington, VA 22201

Winter Board Meeting  
Agenda

Environmental Issues  
Socioeconomic Impacts  
Exploratory Studies Facility Update  
DOE Waste Isolation Strategy and Program Priorities

Beatty Community Center  
Beatty, Nevada 89003  
Tel: (702) 553-2050

January 10-11, 1995

**Tuesday, January 10, 1995**

- 8:30 A.M.**                    **Welcome and opening remarks**  
John Cantlon, Chair  
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB)
- 8:35 A.M.**                    **OCRWM program outlook**  
[Lake Barrett](#)  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM)
- ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- 9:05 A.M.**                    **Session introduction**  
Garry Brewer, NWTRB
- 9:15 A.M.**                    **Update on Yucca Mountain environmental monitoring studies**  
[Wendy Dixon](#)  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMSCO)  
• 10-minute overview of environmental activities at Yucca Mountain  
• Significant results of fiscal year 1994 activities  
• Planned changes, including reduction of monitoring from 48 study plots to 15-18 plots
- 9:25 A.M.**                    **Site-characteration effects monitoring and thermal-loading ecosystem studies**  
[Ronald Green](#) — EG&G Systems, Inc.  
Management and Operating Contractor (M&O)

- Plans for thermal-loading ecosystem study

*Tuesday, January 10 — continued*

**10:00 A.M.**

**BREAK (15 minutes)**

**10:15 A.M.**

**OCRWM strategy for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

[Chris Kouts](#), OCRWM

- Plans and schedules for developing multiple environmental impact statements (EIS)
- Estimated costs of NEPA compliance for each EIS and for the OCRWM program overall
- Rationale for the DOE decision on a programmatic EIS
- Coordination of various EISs, especially to maintain consistency of assumptions and analyses
- OCRWM coordination with external EISs, including the site-wide EIS for Nevada Test Site and the DOE spent fuel programmatic EIS
- Actions OCRWM will take to ensure there are no unpleasant surprises when other parties (e.g., EPA) review and comment on the EISs

**10:35 A.M.**

**EIS preparation for procurement of multipurpose canisters (MPC)**

[Gerald Parker](#), OCRWM

- Overview of plans for EIS development
- Summary of results of scoping meetings: will the EIS evaluate alternate disposal locations or indefinite storage options (at reactor or off-site)? What alternate MPC designs will be considered?
- How will the EIS evaluate the influence of MPC materials and design decisions on disposal?
- MPC decisions: impact on later transportation decisions, e.g., possible requirement for rail transport
- Development of technical information to support the MPC EIS

**10:55 A.M.**

**EIS preparation for a Yucca Mountain repository**

[Wendy Dixon](#), YMSCO

- Overview of plans for EIS development
- Possible alternatives to be considered
- OCRWM coordination of EIS preparation with development of a license application: what steps will the OCRWM take to ensure that the EIS can be adopted by the NRC during licensing?
- Technical information needed to support the EIS

*Tuesday, January 10 — continued*





priorities

Wednesday, January 11 — continued

**10:15 A.M.**

**Break (15 minutes)**

**10:30 A.M.**

**Reconvene panel**

**12:00 P.M.**

**LUNCH (1 hour)**

**1:00 P.M.**

**ESF testing update**

**Dennis Williams, YMSCO**

- Test alcoves are planned at the upper and lower contacts of the Paint Brush vitric nonwelded tuff unit (PTn), in which geomechanical, hydrogeologic and geochemical tests are to be performed
  - Specific data to be collected in these test alcoves and how will these data support the site-suitability determination
  - Rationale that led to the decision to make this testing of higher priority than all other exploration and testing activities — linkage of this high priority to the waste isolation strategy
- A thermal test alcove is to be located in the high lithophysae welded devitrified tuff (TSw1)
  - Data to be obtained: whether it will support the site-suitability determination, licensing, or both
  - Nonrepresentative (i.e., to repository construction) drill and blast excavation and the introduction of water into the host rock: effects on thermal-testing data
  - Linkage between testing and the reference repository thermal management strategy and the waste isolation strategy

**1:20 P.M.**

**Surface-based testing update**

**Susan Jones, YMSCO**

- Until the advent of the program approach, approximately 40 deep dry-drilled boreholes were required for site suitability. This number now appears to be something between 4 and 10.
  - Rationale used to severely reduce the number of deep drillholes

— Linkage of this rationale to the waste isolation strategy

*Wednesday, January 11 — continued*

**1:40 P.M.**

**Update on ESF construction activities**

**Richard Craun**, YMSCO

- Current ESF configuration and construction schedule for site suitability and licensing
- Detailed (6th level) fiscal year 1995 ESF budget (WBS 1.2.6).
- Planned production profile (i.e. usage) for the tunnel boring machine (TBM) and the rationale for limiting fiscal year 1995 production to only 1,280 meters (4,200 ft)
- Disposition and daily stand-by costs of TBM crews (3 shifts/day) during TBM shutdown for alcove construction (4 weeks for each alcove)
- Assuming that all alcove construction and exploratory drifting (other than that done by the large TBM) is to be by drill and blast, how is the introduction of water into the geology to be rationalized given the "to be minimized" mandate of 10 CFR 60? Will 10,000 gallons/ft of excavation be used as in the starter tunnel?

**2:15 P.M.**

**Public questions and comments**

**3:15 P.M.**

**Adjournment** (Note: May be later, depending on questions/comments.)

John Cantlon, NWTRB Chair