U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

PRESENTATION TO
THE NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

SUBJECT: NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

PRESENTER: THOMAS GREIDER

PRESENTER'S TITLE AND ORGANIZATION: SOCIOLOGIST
SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

PRESENTER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: (702) 794-7793

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OBJECTIVES OF NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

- Identify properties or locations that have traditional cultural or religious value to American Indian people
- Determine culturally appropriate techniques to protect and preserve traditional and religious cultural rights and practices
- Implement procedures to minimize effects on traditional cultural or religious values
TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

1. WHO ARE THE AMERICAN INDIAN GROUPS WITH TRADITIONAL TIES TO THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA?

2. WHAT ARE THE TRADITIONAL CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH LOCATIONS OR PROPERTIES IN YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA?

3. WHAT ARE INDIAN PEOPLE’S RECOMMENDED TECHNIQUES FOR MINIMIZING EFFECTS TO CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS VALUES?

4. WHAT ARE FEASIBLE MITIGATION TECHNIQUES TO ADOPT?
TECHNICAL APPROACH

• REVIEW RELEVANT LITERATURE

• REQUEST TRIBAL APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIAL TRIBAL CONTACT REPRESENTATIVE

• CONDUCT ONGOING COMMUNICATION WITH OFFICIAL TRIBAL CONTACT

• CONDUCT KEY CULTURAL EXPERT INTERVIEWS

• ANALYZE CULTURAL EXPERT INTERVIEWS

• OBTAIN INDIAN PEOPLE’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MINIMIZING EFFECTS

• REQUEST TRIBAL REVIEW OF NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL RESOURCE REPORTS FOR VERIFICATION

• INCORPORATE APPROPRIATE MITIGATION TECHNIQUES IN DOE ACTIVITIES
TECHNICAL QUESTION 1: WHO ARE THE AMERICAN INDIAN GROUPS WITH TRADITIONAL TIES TO THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- CONDUCTED LITERATURE REVIEW AND FIELD SITE VISITS WITH NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES

- LITERATURE REVIEW AND ETHNOHISTORY OF NATIVE AMERICAN OCCUPANCY AND USE OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA (DOE/NV-10576-21, JANUARY 1990)

- IDENTIFIED AND INVOLVED AMERICAN INDIAN GROUPS AS SHOWN ON ACCOMPANYING VIEWGRAPH
TRADITIONAL ETHNIC BOUNDARIES AND LOCATIONS OF TRIBES INVOLVED IN THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT
TECHNICAL QUESTION 2: WHAT ARE THE TRADITIONAL CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH LOCATIONS OR PROPERTIES IN YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- NATIVE AMERICAN GROUPS WERE TAKEN ON SITE VISITS WITH DOE REPRESENTATIVES, ARCHAEOLOGISTS, AND ETHNOBOTANISTS

- NATIVE AMERICAN INTERPRETATION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES IN THE AREA OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA (DOE/NV-10576-17, MARCH 1989)

- NATIVE AMERICAN PLANT RESOURCES IN THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN AREA, NEVADA (DOE/NV-10576-19, NOVEMBER 1989)

STATUS

- NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE INVITED TO OBSERVE FUTURE ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES
TECHNICAL QUESTION 3: WHAT ARE INDIAN PEOPLE'S RECOMMENDED TECHNIQUES FOR MINIMIZING EFFECTS TO CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS VALUES?

ACCcomplishments

- INVOLVED NATIVE AMERICAN GROUPS MET 5/88 AND SUBMITTED RECOMMENDATIONS ON:

  - NATIVE AMERICAN ARTIFACTS
  - PLANTS
  - PETROGLYPHS AND PICTOGRAPHS
  - NATIVE AMERICAN BURIALS
  - ANIMALS
  - SACRED PLACES
  - INFORMATION
  - DISSEMINATION
  - NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTANTS
TECHNICAL QUESTION 4: WHAT ARE FEASIBLE MITIGATION TECHNIQUES TO ADOPT?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- MET WITH INVOLVED AMERICAN INDIAN GROUPS TO DISCUSS APPROPRIATE MITIGATION TECHNIQUES 1/90 - 3/90

STATUS

- DEVELOPING PROCESS TO INCORPORATE MITIGATION TECHNIQUES
INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

- ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPONENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDIES

- TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS STUDIES (PLANTS AND ANIMALS)

- PROJECT WORKER ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS TRAINING INCLUDES INFORMATION ON PROTECTING CULTURAL RESOURCES

- CULTURAL DISPLAY AND EDUCATION PROGRAM AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN INFORMATION OFFICE