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

PRESENTATION TO
THE NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTING A QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

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OCRWM QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

- DOE has initiated a QA program consistent with 10 CFR 60 Subpart G based on provisions similar to those used in reactor siting and construction.

- The QA program applies to the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) and other affected organizations.

- QA has a document hierarchy that follows ANSI/ASME NQA-1-1989.

- The QA documents amplify the provisions of NRC regulations (10 CFR 60, 10 CFR 71, 10 CFR 72, 10 CFR 50 Appendix B)

- The QA documents must allow application of other regulations in the processes of siting, design, and construction
Figure 2-1. PMS Responsibilities of OCRWM Offices.
ACHIEVEMENT OF QUALITY

- Each person in the program is responsible for the achievement of quality in the work the person performs.

- The Program Director retains responsibility for the total QA program.

- The QA program provides for both achievement of quality and verification of that achievement.

- The QA organization has the responsibility to provide assurance to senior line management of the line organization’s achievement and verification of quality.

- The QA organization conducts overview activities such as audits, surveillances, and reviews.

- In addition to overview activities, the QA organization performs support functions in the implementation of QA guidance.
APPLICATION OF QA CONTROLS

- Managers assign controls to each task depending on the importance of each activity to safety, waste isolation, and program objectives.

- For each participant, the implementing documents are different, but the management processes are similar.

- Each contractor has QA specifications included in their contract and statement of work.
OCRWM QA REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT (QARD)

- The QARD defines the upper-tier requirements governing the activities affecting quality for all program participants.

- The QARD contains 19 sections amplifying similar sections in ANSI/ASME NQA-1-1989 and applying to all program elements.

- DOE participants develop quality assurance program descriptions and lower-tier documents to implement provisions of the QARD. A common Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPD) has been developed for OCRWM.

- The QARD does not contain the detailed technical requirements and criteria of regulations, NUREGs, DOE Orders, and OCRWM guidance. Such detail is contained in lower-tier documents.
OCRWM QA PROGRAM DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (QAPD)

- The QAPD describes the organization and responsibilities within that organization.

- The QAPD assumes that OCRWM will establish separate project offices for the MGDS, MRS, and Transportation functions.

- The QAPD defines the scope of OCRWM activities considered quality affecting.
OCRWM DOCUMENT HIERARCHY

- OCRWM divides its plans into management and technical documents.

- Review responsibilities for each document are individually controlled.

- Technical reports are below the level of the planning documents in the document hierarchy, but are still controlled by QA provisions.

- The July 1990 reorganization has required revisions to the OCRWM document hierarchy.
QA PROCEDURES CONSOLIDATION PLAN

- As a result of the July 1990 reorganization of OCRWM, the Headquarters and Project Office QARD and QAPD were consolidated into one set of upper-tier QA program documents.

- The Director of OQA and the AD-Office of Geologic Disposal will be the leaders of a team that consolidates, where practical, the common YMPO and DOE/HQ QA procedures.

- A transition plan was issued identifying procedure priorities, time and resources required, and a proposed working schedule for consolidation.
ASSIGNMENT OF QA GRADING

• Grading of items and activities important to safety, waste isolation, and program objectives is conducted by OCRWM and the YMPO.

• For OCRWM, grading is a prerequisite to performance of work.

• Based on the guidance of Nureg-1318, an assessment is performed to consider candidates for inclusion on a Q-List (items important to safety and items important to waste isolation) and a Quality Activities List (actions that can affect waste isolation).