

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

**NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD**

**SUBJECT: ENGINEERING APPROACH**

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**AUSTIN, TEXAS  
APRIL 30 - MAY 1, 1996**

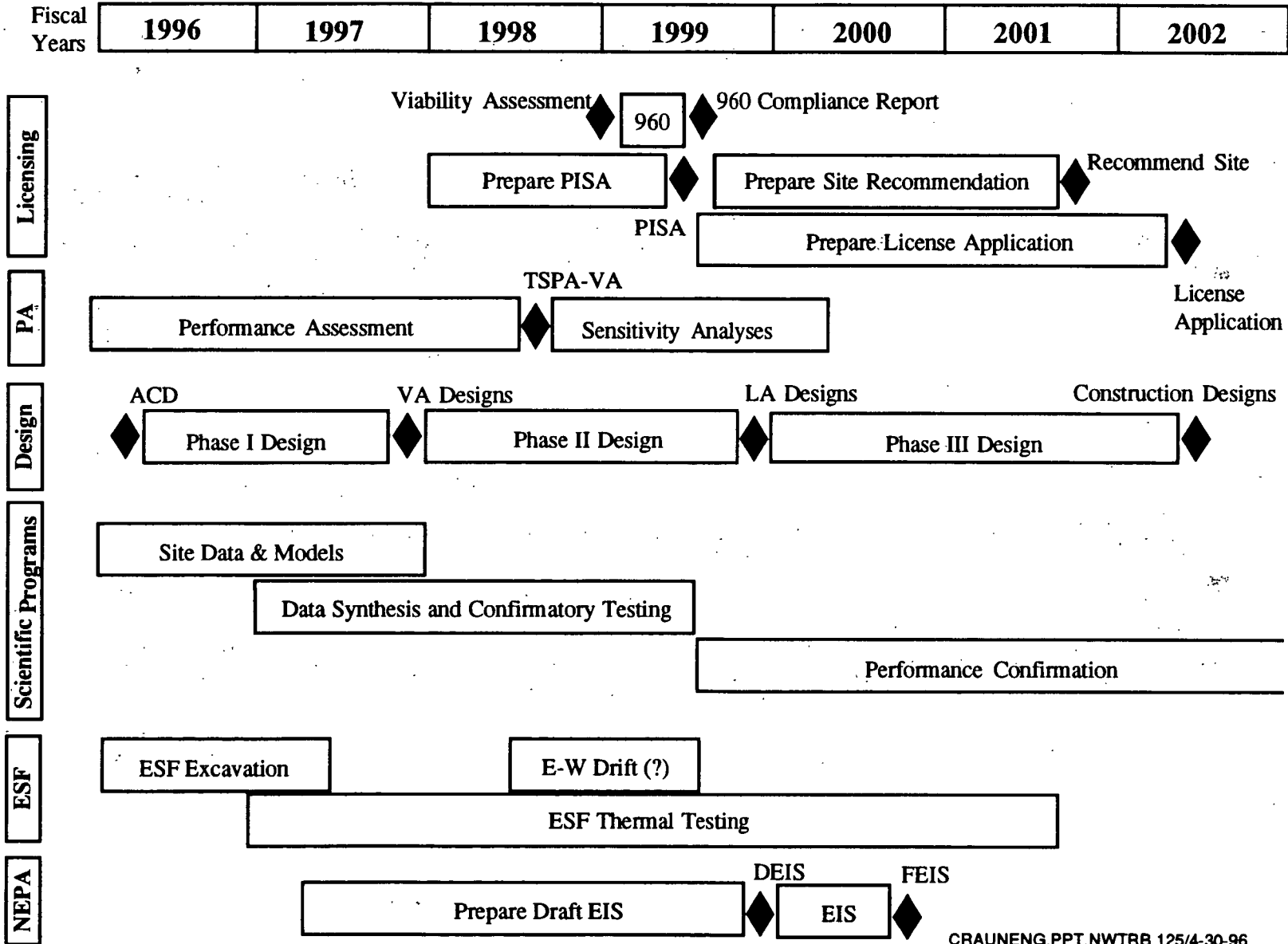
# Overview

- **Revised Engineering Approach**
- **Engineering Schedule Overview**
- **Total System Performance Assessment Model Hierarchy: Key Engineering Models**
- **Summary of Engineering Integration with Other Project Elements**
- **Design Detail for Viability Assessment and License Application/Construction**

# Revised Engineering Approach

- **Change in approach represents both scope and Project changes**
- **Continuous design effort through Viability Assessment and License Application into construction**
- **Focus on and prioritize design elements important to the Strategy for Evaluating Waste Containment and Isolation and need sequence**
- **Generation of discrete designs will be used to develop design basis for License Application**
- **Eliminated major design reports and technical basis reports**

# Summary Schedule



# Design Phase Focus

## Phase I

- Items important to waste containment and isolation
- Items important to retrieval
- Other items important to safety without any NRC licensing precedent

## Phase II

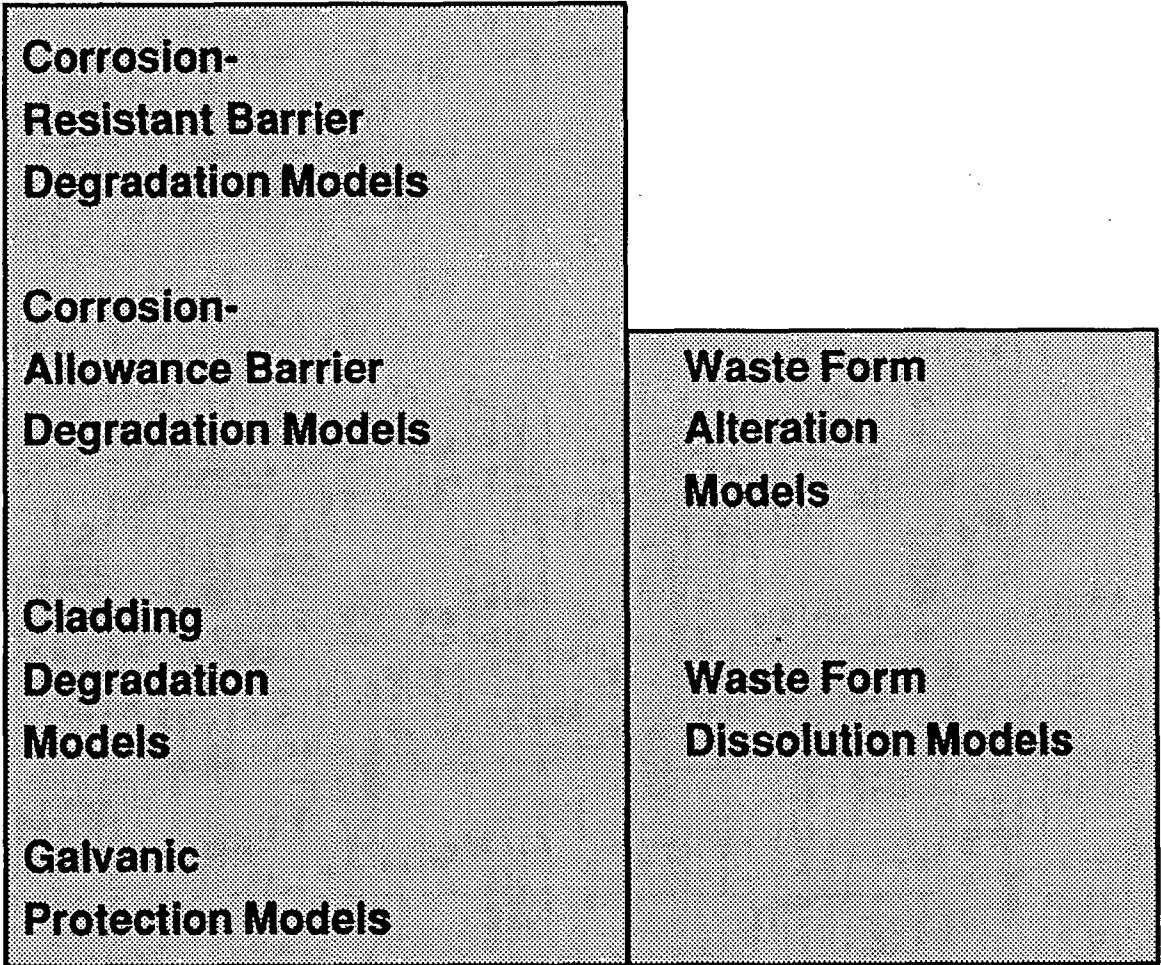
- Items important to safety with an established NRC licensing precedent

## Phase III

- Balance of plant

TOTAL SYSTEM PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT MODEL																											
TSPA Iterations																											
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT MODELS																											
Biosphere Transport Model			Geosphere Transport Model		EBS Transport Model		Waste Package "Life Time" Model																				
ABSTRACTED (SYSTEMS & SUBSYSTEMS) MODELS																											
UZ Flow Model	SZ Flow Model	Drift-Scale Flux Model	Drift-Scale Temperature/Humidity/Saturation Model	Waste Package Failure Model	Abstracted Basaltic Volcanism Model	Abstracted Tectonic Model	Abstracted Human Interference Models	Abstracted Criticality Condition Models																			
SITE (CORE SCIENCE), DESIGN/ENGINEERING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS PROCESS MODELS																											
Natural Barrier System Performance Models	Near Field Environments Models	Waste Package/EBS Models			Potentially Disruptive Features, Events, and Processes Models																						
		Waste Package Degradation Models	Waste Form Alteration/Dissolution Models	Waste Package/EBS Release Models	Basaltic Volcanism Models	Tectonics Models																					
Geologic (3-D) Framework Models	Repository-Scale T-H Environment Models	Corrosion-Resistant Barrier Degradation Models	Waste Package T-H Environment Models	Waste Package Advective/Diffusive Transport Models	Recurrence Models	Recurrence Models	Direct Effects Models	Direct Effects Models																			
UZ Gaseous Flow Models	Drift-Scale T-H Environment Model		Waste Form Alteration Models						EBS Advective/Diffusive Transport Models	Direct Effects Models	Direct Effects Models																
UZ Aqueous Flow Models	Repository-Scale T-C Environment Models		Waste Form Dissolution Models									EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models													
UZ Zone Gaseous Transport Models	Drift-Scale T-C Environment Models		Cladding Degradation Models												EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models										
UZ Aqueous Transport Models	Effect of Man-Made Materials on T-C Environment Models		Galvanic Protection Models															EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models							
SZ Flow Models	Effect of Colloid Formation on T-C Environment Models		Galvanic Protection Models																		EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models				
SZ Transport Models																								Galvanic Protection Models	EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models
Biosphere Models																											
Climate Change Models		Galvanic Protection Models		EBS Colloidal Transport Models	Indirect Effects Models	Indirect Effects Models																					

# Key Engineering Models Supporting Performance Assessment

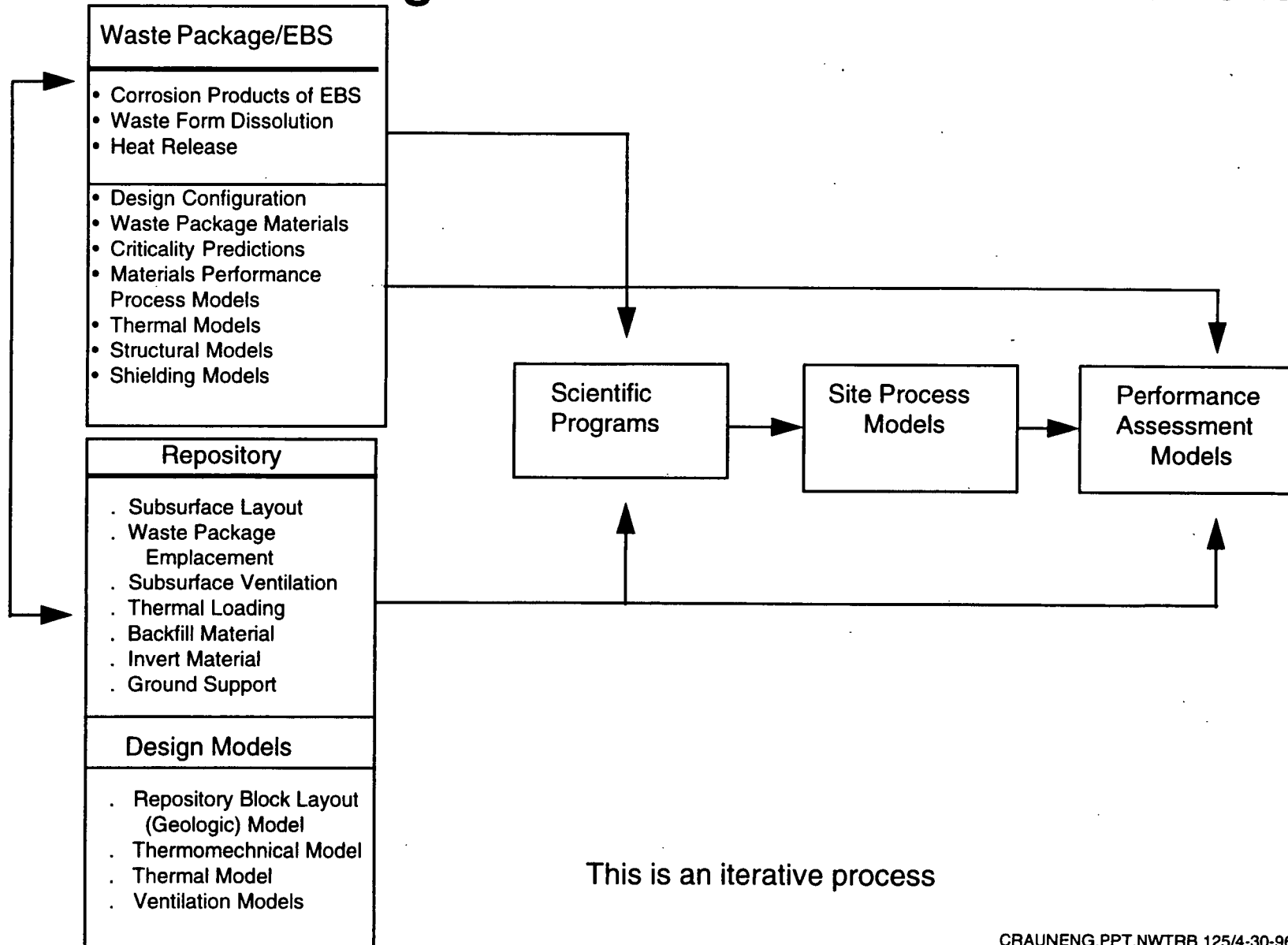


# Engineering Program Activities Important to Strategy for Evaluation of Waste Containment and Isolation

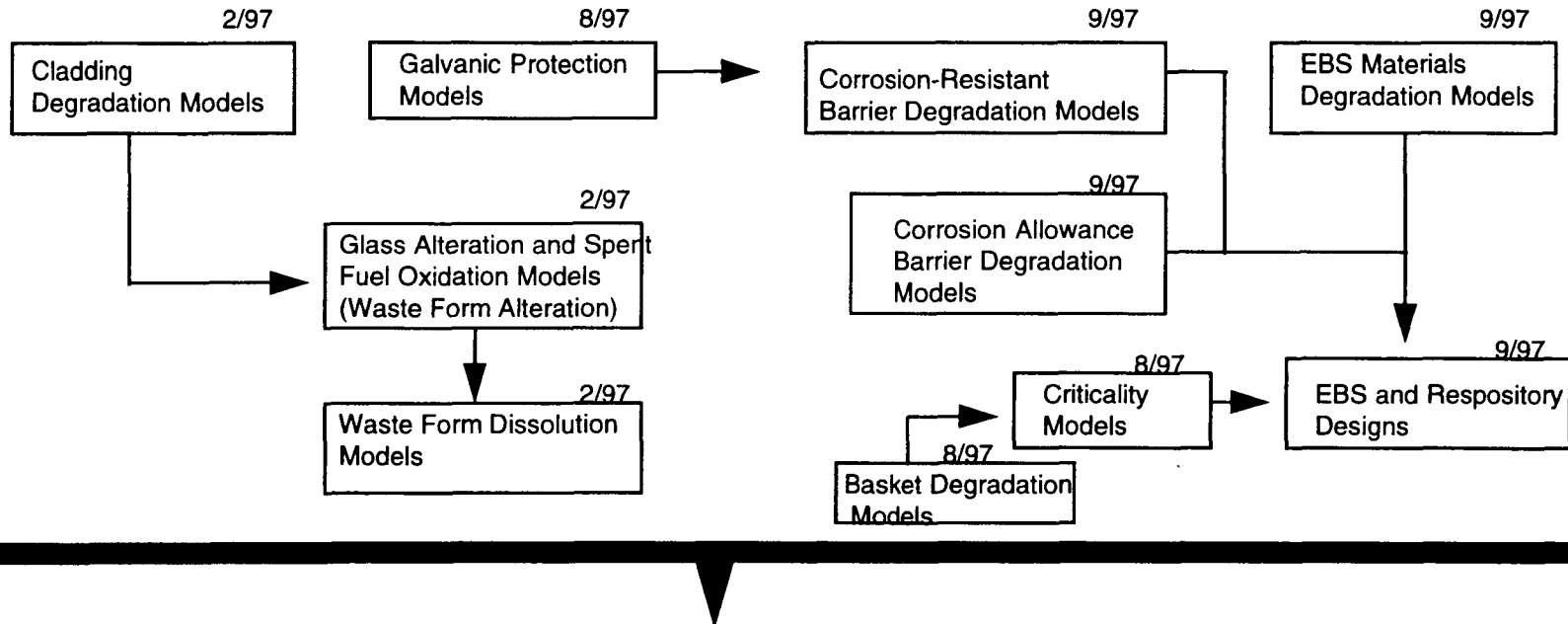
<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Hypothesis</u>	<u>Parameters to be Established/Bounded</u>
Containment	Heat reduces humidity	Thermal behavior of repository and drift-scale engineered systems to determine heat release
Containment	Corrosion rates are negligible at low humidity	Corrosion rates of containment barrier materials as a function of temperature, humidity and surface condition
Containment	Galvanic effects significantly increase containment times	Corrosion rates of inner containment barrier material as influenced by galvanic coupling with outer containment barrier material
Reduced Radionuclide Concentrations in EBS	Engineered barriers have radionuclide depletion and dispersion potential	Radionuclide dispersion (e.g., surface area) characteristics and degradation behavior (e.g., EBS component degradation by-products) of all engineered barrier materials



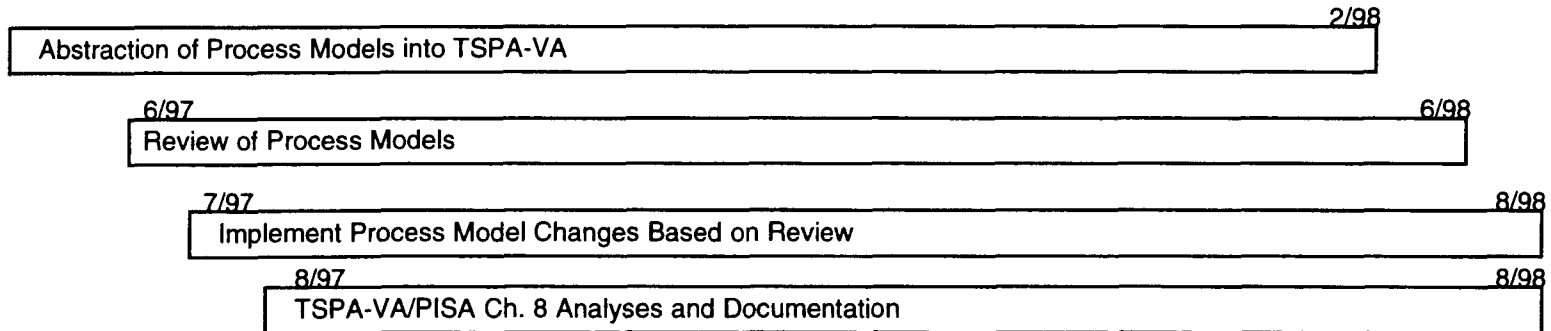
# Engineering Information and Model Inputs to Scientific Programs and Performance Assessment



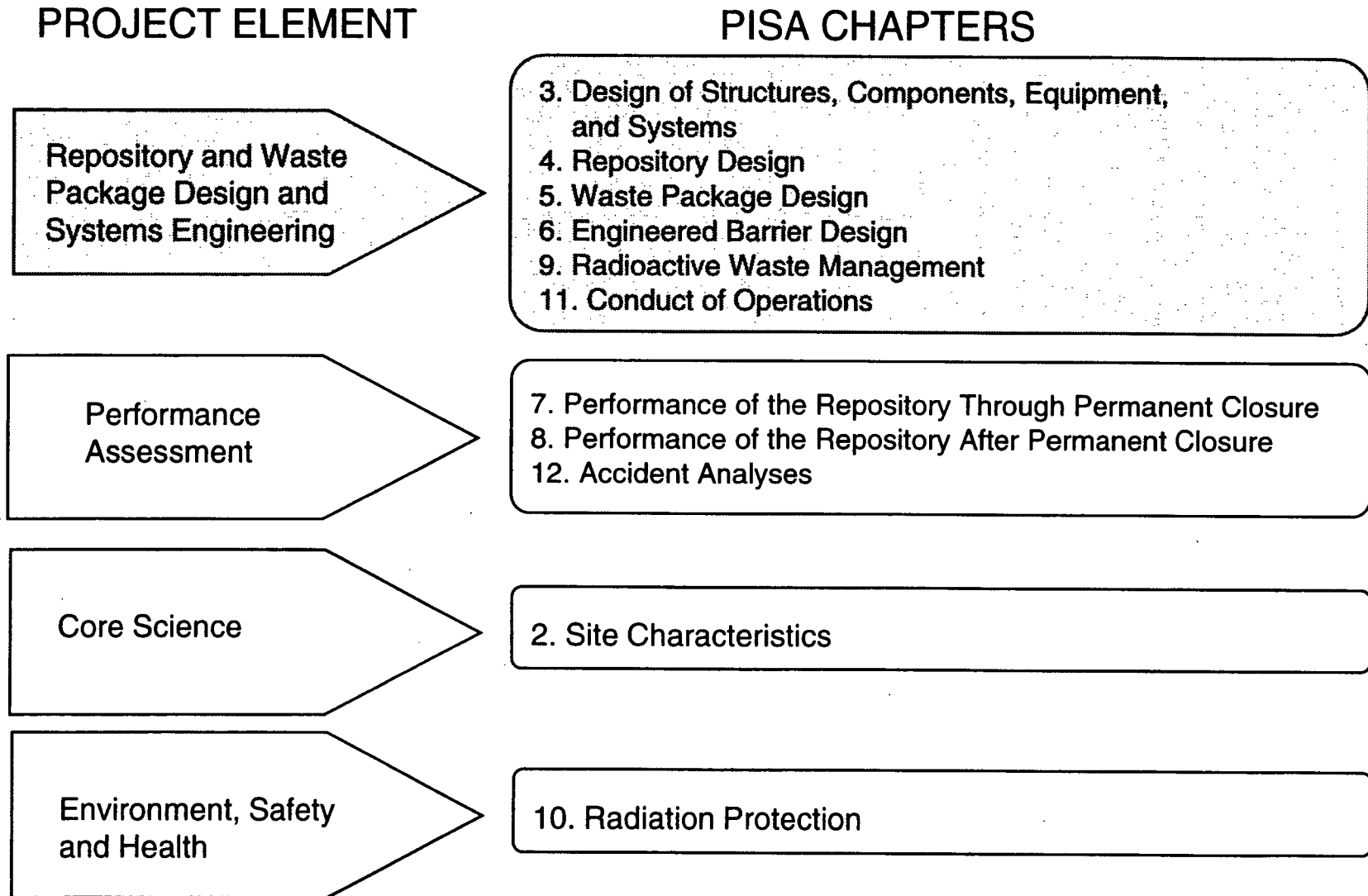
# Engineering Interface with Performance Assessment for Viability Assessment



10/96



# Development of the PISA



# Binning Process

- **Developed to address need for prioritizing work to complete License Application design**
- **Start early on tasks that**
  - Have longer lead time
  - Higher risk
  - Are more difficult
- **Structures, Systems, and Components are assigned to bins based upon safety significance and regulatory precedent**
  - Bin 1 is least significant
  - Bin 3 is most significant
- **Bins support assignment of work into the appropriate design phases**

# **Binning Process**

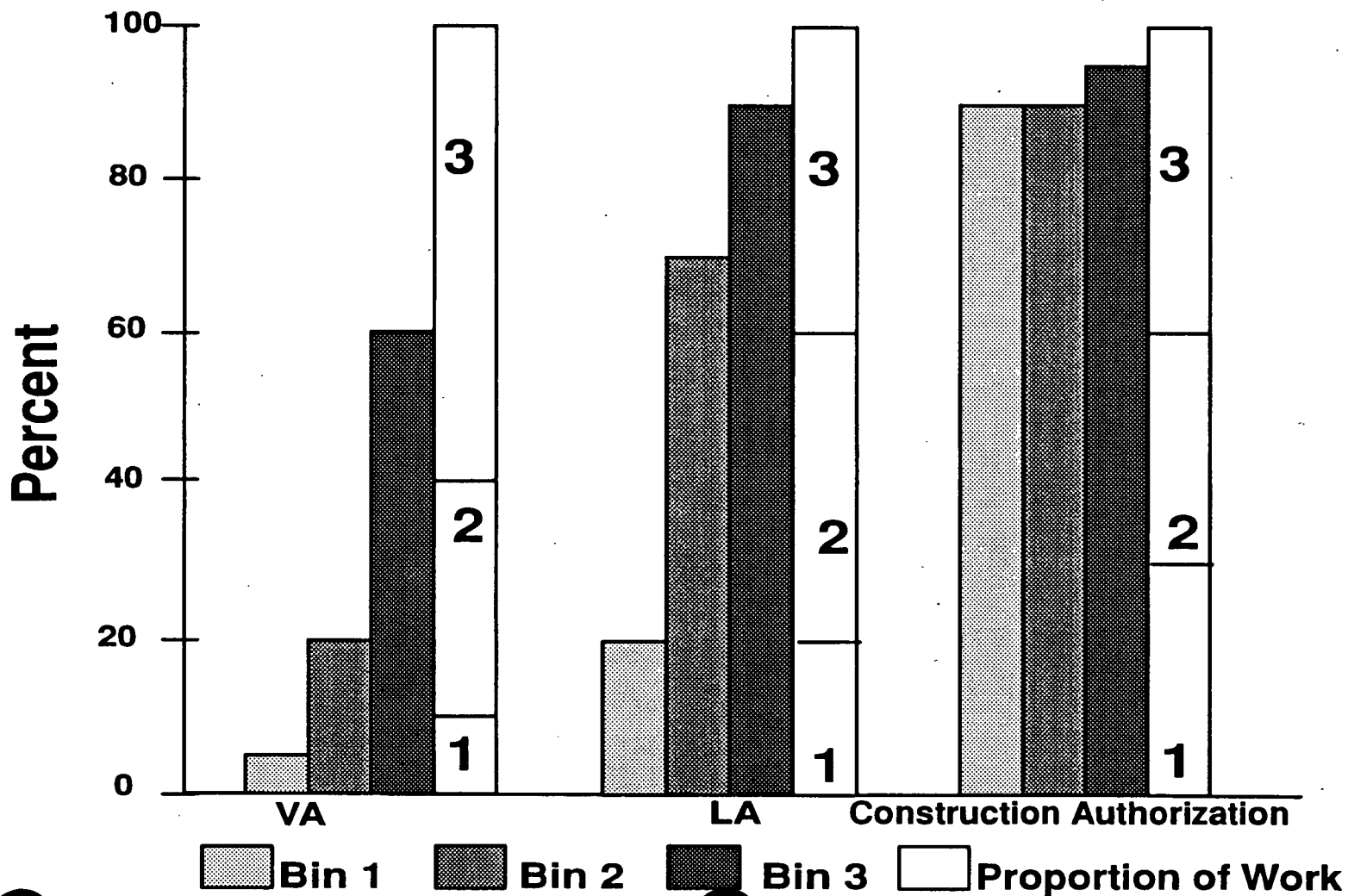
(continued)

- **Focus for License Application design will be on Bin 3 activities, minimal Bin 1 and moderate Bin 2 activities**
- **Bins do not change the need for completion of work in accordance with design program**

# Binning Process

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# Comparisons of Binning and Percent Completion Over Time



# **Level of Design Detail for License Application**

- **Bin 1 will be approximately 20% complete:**
  - **Conceptual design documents will be started**
  - **Minimal work on physical design documents and design guides**
- **Bin 2 will be approximately 60% complete:**
  - **Conceptual design documents will either be completed or in draft**
  - **Physical design documents will be started**
  - **Design guides will be draft**
- **Bin 3 will be approximately 90% complete:**
  - **Conceptual design documents will be completed**
  - **Physical design documents will be nearly completed**
  - **Design guides will be completed**



# Conclusion

- **The engineering licensing design basis work scope will be captured in the schedule**
- **Engineering has to transition to a production mode to develop the licensing design basis documentation**
- **The interface requirements must be captured in the integrated schedule**
- **Our short term focus needs to continue to be development of the detailed schedule**