Yucca Mountain Program Status

Presented to:
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

Presented by:
J. Russell (Russ) Dyer
Acting Director, Office of Technical Management

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Program Status

- The Administration has decided that Yucca Mountain is not a workable option and proposes to eliminate the Yucca Mountain Program.
- The FY 2010 budget request provides approximately $197 million for DOE to explore alternatives for nuclear waste disposal alternatives and to continue participation in the repository licensing proceeding before the NRC.
Proposed FY 2010 funding request implements the Administration’s decision to terminate the Yucca Mountain Program while developing disposal alternatives

- Eliminates all funding for development of the Yucca Mountain facility, such as further land acquisition, transportation access, and engineering

Contractor support reduced from about 2,500 in FY 2007 to 700 today
Licensing Review Process

- NRC has issued 449 Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) as of 6/08/09
  - 333 responses to RAIs submitted to NRC by DOE
  - 113 responses to RAIs currently in progress
  - 3 RAIs cancelled/deferred by NRC
  - Expect balance of questions from NRC by ~9/30/2009
  - Expect all responses to be submitted by ~12/31/2009

  » 1 Dates are general goals, not milestones
Licensing Hearing Process

- The Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards appointed by the NRC have granted a hearing on the Yucca Mountain License Application
  - The Boards issued an Order on May 11, 2009, that admitted eight petitioners as parties and a total of 299 contentions on safety and environmental issues