



**U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical
Review Board**

**Annual Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2024**

November 15, 2024

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

November 15, 2024

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) is an independent agency in the Executive Branch of the federal government. The Board performs ongoing and objective peer review of the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary of Energy under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA) (Public Law 97-425), as amended, including the packaging, transportation, and disposal of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW). The Board also advises and makes recommendations to Congress and the Secretary on technical issues related to nuclear waste management and disposal.

Following is the Board's fiscal year 2024 Annual Financial Report, prepared in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-136 (Revised), Section II. This report includes an overview of our mission, strategic goals, performance objectives, and a summary of the Board's performance for fiscal year 2024. Also included are the Board's comparative financial statements for fiscal years 2024 and 2023, financial statement footnotes for fiscal year ending 2024, and a statement of assurance regarding the Board's internal controls over financial reporting.

As a result of our continued commitment to maintain effective stewardship over the taxpayers' resources, the Board received an unmodified audit opinion rendered on our financial statements for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 from the independent auditing firm, Allmond & Company, LLC (enclosed).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Swift".

Peter Swift, Ph.D.
Chair
U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) has produced this Annual Financial Report to meet Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) annual financial reporting requirements for FY 2024. Pursuant to the requirements noted in the Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards, included in this Management Discussion and Analysis is an overview of the Board’s mission and organizational structure.

Per OMB Circular A-123, the Board is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls and financial management systems that meet the objectives of the Federal Manager’s Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA). With respect to any and all internal and external reviews of the Board, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the Board provides reasonable assurance of the effectiveness of internal controls over operations, management systems, and financial reporting and that its internal controls over the effectiveness and efficiency of operations were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations as of September, 30, 2024, and no material weaknesses were identified in the design or operations of internal controls. Furthermore, the Board strengthened its internal controls to ensure sufficient funds were available to support mission needs and ensure obligations did not exceed budget authority. The Board relies on the General Services Administration (GSA), a shared services provider, for accounting, payroll, and financial services, systems, and reporting requirements. The Board does not own, operate, or maintain any financial or payroll systems; however, the Board considers GSA’s financial system, Pegasys, as well as any other financial systems used by GSA to support the Board’s financial operations, to be reliable and effective. The Board reviewed GSA’s Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements No. 18 audit report to assist in assessing internal controls over the Board’s financial reporting. After a review of FY 2024 results in which GSA received a favorable opinion, the Board did not identify any significant issues or deviations in its financial reporting during FY 2024, and therefore believes its internal controls over financial reporting are sufficiently strong.

MISSION AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Board is an independent agency in the Executive Branch of the federal government. The Board performs ongoing and objective peer review of the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary of Energy under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA) (Public Law 97-425), as amended, including the packaging, transportation, and disposal of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW). The Board also advises and makes recommendations to Congress and the Secretary on technical issues related to nuclear waste management and disposal.

The Board is a micro-agency with 11 presidentially appointed Board members (currently staffed at ten) and ten full-time staff. The Board’s organization is outlined in Figure 1. Board members are appointed by the President from a list of nominees submitted by the National Academy of Sciences. Nominees to the Board must be eminent in a field of science or engineering and are selected based on established records of distinguished service. The Board is nonpartisan and apolitical. By law, no nominee to the Board may be an employee of the Department of Energy (DOE), a National Laboratory under contract to DOE, or any entity performing HLW or SNF

activities under contract to DOE. Board members serve part-time and are special government employees.

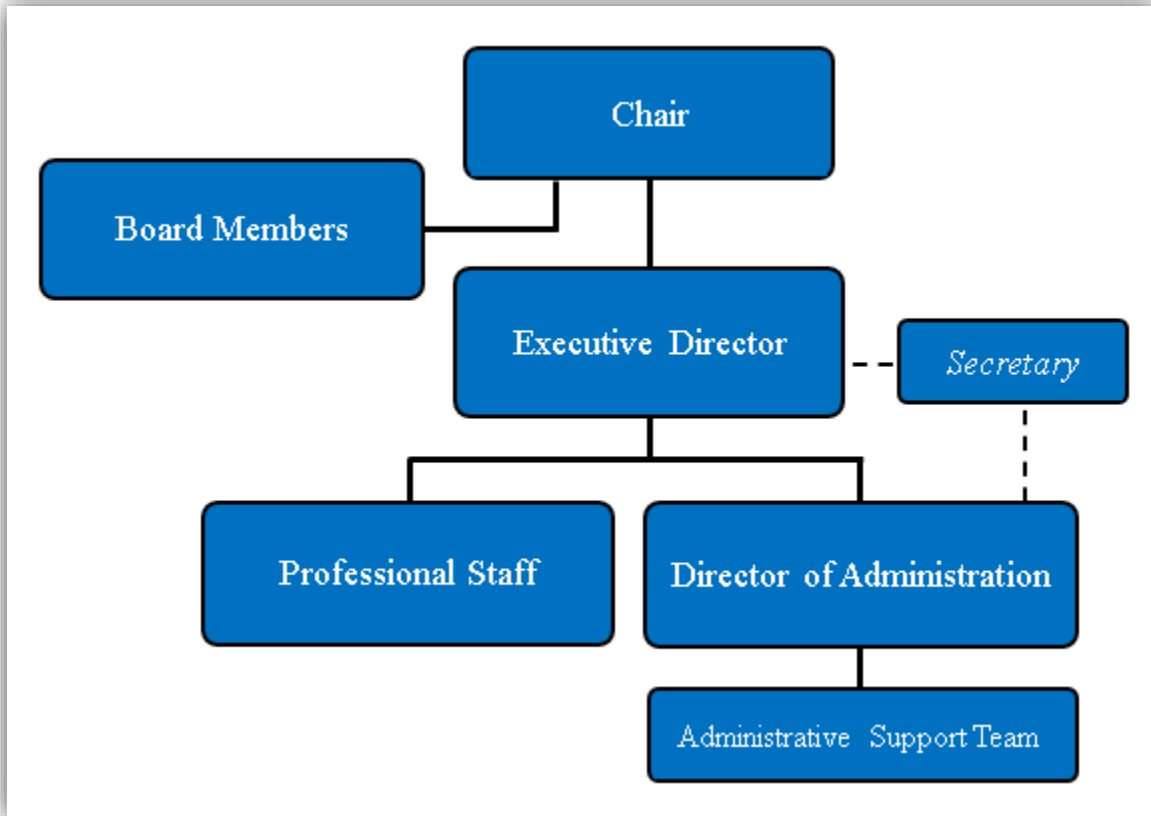


Figure 1. Organization Chart as of November 12, 2024

PERFORMANCE GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND RESULTS FOR FY 2024

The Board uses annual evaluations of its performance as input in updating its performance goals (PGs) for the current year and identifying PGs for the subsequent year. The PGs reflect the objectives of the agency leadership and are outcome-oriented. The annual evaluations of the Board’s performance also are used as input to the development of the Board’s annual budget request.

Board FY 2024 Goals and Performance: The PGs, which are the subject of this evaluation, were included as part of the Board’s Performance Plan for FYs 2024 through 2025, contained in the Board’s FY 2025 Budget Request. In the following evaluation, the Strategic Objectives on which the PGs are based are stated followed by a table displaying the associated PGs and the activities undertaken by the Board to accomplish the PGs in FY 2024.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #1: *The Board will continue its evaluation of DOE activities related to implementation of the NWPA and relevant amendments to that Act. Based on its evaluation, the Board will report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to Congress and the Secretary.*

FY 2024 – 2025 PERFORMANCE GOALS	BOARD ACTIVITIES
<p>PG 1-A: In FY 2024, the Board will hold a public meeting on DOE’s generic disposal studies focused on SNF and HLW disposal in crystalline host rock and related topics.</p>	<p>The Board held a public meeting May 21-22, 2024, on DOE’s generic disposal studies focused on SNF and HLW disposal in crystalline host rock: May 21-22, 2024 Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board expects to issue a letter containing findings, conclusions, and recommendations in early FY 2025.
<p>PG 1-B: In FY 2024 through 2025, the Board plans to dedicate portions of at least two public meetings to continue its evaluation of DOE activities to develop a consent-based siting approach for a federal interim storage facility for SNF.</p>	<p>Following its Summer 2023 Board meeting regarding DOE’s efforts to use a consent based siting process for a federal interim storage facility, the Board published a Proceeding for the meeting: Proceedings</p> <p>The Board held a public meeting August 29, 2024, which included an update on DOE’s consent-based siting process for a federal interim storage facility for SNF: August 29, 2024 Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board expects to issue a letter or report containing findings, conclusions, and recommendations in FY 2025.
<p>PG 1-C: In FY 2024 through 2025, the Board will continue to review the technical issues DOE will need to address before it can begin the implementation of an integrated program for the nationwide transport of SNF and HLW.</p>	<p>Members of the Board and staff attended the DOE Spent Nuclear Fuel Working Group Meeting at the Savannah River Site in May 2024, and the Annual Transportation Stakeholders Forum in June 2024, where DOE discussed details of its initiatives related to future transportation of SNF and HLW.</p> <p>Board and staff members attended the DOE R&D annual program review meeting, July 9-11, 2024, to learn about new developments in DOE activities related to storage and transportation of SNF.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #2: *The Board will develop objective technical and scientific information that will be useful to policy makers in Congress and the Administration on issues related to SNF and HLW management and disposal. The Board will communicate such information to Congress and the Secretary in letters, reports, and testimony.*

FY 2024 – 2025 PERFORMANCE GOALS	BOARD ACTIVITIES
<p>PG 2-A: In FY 2024, the Board will report on the system-wide implications of using large canisters for the dry storage of SNF, with a focus on the potential for direct disposal of those canisters.</p>	<p>In February 2024, the Board issued a report on the system-wide implications of using large canisters for the dry storage of SNF and on DOE R&D efforts regarding the direct disposal of SNF in large canisters: February 2024 Board Report.</p>
<p>PG 2-B: In FY 2024, the Board will hold a public meeting on the DOE activities related to packaging, drying, and dry storage of DOE-managed SNF and HLW.</p>	<p>The Board held a public meeting on August 29, 2024, on the DOE activities related to packaging, drying, and dry storage of DOE-managed SNF and HLW: August 29, 2024 Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Board expects to issue a letter or report containing findings, conclusions, and recommendations in FY 2025.
<p>PG 2-C: In FYs 2024 through 2025, the Board plans to evaluate DOE research and development on the integrity of SNF canisters during storage and transportation, including research related to the consequences of a potential canister breach.</p>	<p>In FY 2024, Board members and staff attended meetings of the Electric Power Research Institute Extended Storage Collaboration Program and the DOE-NE storage and transportation R&D annual program review meeting. These meetings included details of DOE R&D on the potential for chloride-induced stress corrosion cracking in SNF canisters, consequences in the event of a canister breach, and other SNF storage and transportation topics.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #3: *The Board will compile information and report to Congress and the Secretary on its findings, conclusions, and recommendations from experience gained during 35 years of reviewing the U.S. nuclear waste management and disposal program and from observing waste management efforts in other countries.*

FY 2024 – 2025 PERFORMANCE GOALS	BOARD ACTIVITIES
<p>PG 3-A: In FY 2024 through 2025, the Board will continue its efforts to identify recent siting lessons-learned, such as those from Canada and Switzerland, which could be applicable to DOE’s effort to use a consent-based siting approach for a federal interim storage facility.</p>	<p>In October 2023, the Board visited Canada to meet with the implementer of the Canadian SNF disposal program, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), to discuss siting lessons learned. The Board also visited and interacted with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the SNF storage facility at the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station ➤ the municipality of South Bruce, Ontario, which is one of two potential host communities for a deep geologic repository for SNF ➤ the NWMO Discovery and Demonstration Center that conducts research on SNF disposal
<p>PG 3-B: In FY 2024 through 2025, the Board will continue its technical information exchange activities with countries such as France, Sweden, and Finland, where sites for deep geologic repositories for SNF or HLW are being selected, licensed, or constructed.</p>	<p>A member of the Board’s staff served as co-chair of a session on geologic disposal of SNF and HLW at the Waste Management 2024 Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. The staff member worked closely with the other co-chair, a representative of BGE Technology GmbH (Germany), to exchange technical information and coordinate the technical session.</p> <p>The Board conducted a detailed technical information exchange with representatives from Finland regarding the Finnish efforts to develop a repository in crystalline rock; the same representatives participated in the Board’s public meeting during May 21-22, 2024, to provide updates on the Finnish program (see May 21-22, 2024 Meeting).</p>

<p>PG 3-C: In FYs 2024 through 2025, the Board will continue to monitor activities in other countries related to disposal of SNF and HLW. International disposal program information will be made available on the Board’s website as a resource for Congress and the public.</p>	<p>In December 2023, a member of the Board’s staff attended the Nuclear Energy Agency Workshop on Extended Storage and Transportation of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste from Current and Future Reactor Technologies, which included waste management program updates from Germany, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and others.</p> <p>The Board created and posted to its website an information table showing the progress of nuclear waste repository programs in 13 selected countries. The table can be seen here: Table of repository programs</p>
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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

The Board's FY 2024 budgetary resources were dedicated to meeting the Board's mission. For FY 2024, the Board was appropriated \$4,064,000 under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, (Public Law 118-42). The Board's unobligated balances and recoveries from unpaid obligations for FY 2024 were \$1,725,984. The Board's total available budgetary resources were \$5,789,984. As of September 30, 2024, the Board's Assets and Fund Balance with Treasury was \$1,761,080. The agency's liabilities and net position totaled \$1,888,227, and the net cost of operations for FY 2024 was \$4,783,394.

There were no significant variances when comparing FY 2024 financial statements to the FY 2023 financial statements. For FY 2023, the Board was appropriated \$3,945,000 under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, (Public Law 117-328). The Board's unobligated balances and recoveries from unpaid obligations for FY 2023 were \$1,474,043. The Board's total available budgetary resources were \$5,419,043. As of September 30, 2023, the Board's Assets and Fund Balance with Treasury was \$2,010,159. The agency's liabilities and net position totaled \$2,190,028, and the net cost of operations for FY 2023 was \$4,497,728.

ANALYSIS OF SYSTEMS, CONTROLS, AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) (Public Law 113-101) was enacted to increase accountability and transparency in federal spending and expand the requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006. The DATA Act requires executive branch agencies to report spending data using the standardized data structure established by the Treasury Department and OMB.

In collaboration with our shared service provider, the Board reviewed and certified the expenditure information and posted on the USASpending.gov website for each month in FY 2024.

DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) (31 U.S.C. §§ 3711-3720E), as amended, prescribes standards for carrying out federal agency collection actions and for referring an agency's uncollectible debts to the proper federal agency for collection and litigation. The act has no material effect on NWTRB because the Board operates with virtually no delinquent debt. DCIA was amended by the DATA Act to require transfer of debts outstanding for more than 120 days to the Treasury Department for collection under the Treasury Offset Program.

The Board did not identify any debts in FY 2024 that were required to be transferred to the Treasury Department.

ANTI-DEFICIENCY ACT

The Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA) (31 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1342, 1350, 1351, 1517) consists of provisions of law that were passed by the Congress (beginning in the nineteenth century and later codified in Title 31 of the United States Code) to prevent departments and agencies from spending their entire appropriations during the first few months of the year. The Act prohibits any Federal employee from entering into contracts that exceed the enacted appropriations for the year and purchasing services and merchandise before appropriations are enacted.

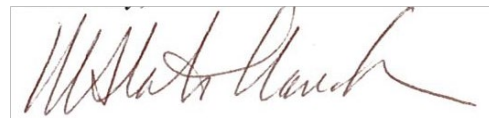
The Board is proud to report that due to continuous strengthening and monitoring of internal controls, no ADA violations have occurred since the Board's establishment in 1987.

MANAGEMENT'S STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to support effective and efficient programmatic operations and reliable financial reporting, which includes safeguarding of assets and compliance with applicable laws and regulations (FMFIA § 2). As part of the annual audit, the Board contracted an independent audit firm that considered the Board's internal controls over financial reporting in accordance with OMB Circular A-123, *Management's Responsibility for Internal Control*. That consideration was not an expression of opinion on NWTRB's internal controls over financial reporting. Based on the results of the evaluation, the Board can provide reasonable assurance that internal controls over financial reporting as of September 30, 2024, were operating effectively, and no material weaknesses were found in the design or operation of the internal controls over financial reporting.



Daniel Ogg
Executive Director



Neysa M. Slater-Chandler, CGFM
Director of Administration

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND NOTES

Limitations of Financial Statements

The following financial statements are prepared to report the financial position and results of operations of the reporting entity, pursuant to the requirements of 31 U.S.C. § 3515(b). The statements are prepared from the books and records of Federal entities in accordance with federal generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the formats prescribed by OMB. Reports used to monitor and control budgetary resources are prepared from the same books and records. The financial statements should be read with the realization that they are for a component of the U.S.

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

BALANCE SHEETS

As of September 30, 2024 and 2023 (in dollars)

		2024	2023 (Reclassified)
Assets:			
Intragovernmental Assets:			
Fund Balance With Treasury	(Note 2)	\$ 1,761,079.83	\$ 2,010,159.32
Total Intragovernmental Assets		1,761,079.83	2,010,159.32
Other than Intragovernmental Assets:			
Property, Plant and Equipment, net	(Note 3)	127,147.15	179,869.02
Total Other than Intragovernmental Assets		127,147.15	179,869.02
Total Assets		\$ 1,888,226.98	\$ 2,190,028.34
Commitments and contingencies (Note 6)			
Liabilities:			
Intragovernmental Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable		14,000.00	14,000.00
Other Liabilities	(Note 5)	12,577.25	9,334.42
Total Intragovernmental Liabilities		26,577.25	23,334.42
Other than Intragovernmental Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable		248,324.55	20,177.85
Federal Employee Salary, Leave, and Benefits Payable		280,882.11	251,583.23
Total Other than Intragovernmental Liabilities		529,206.66	271,761.08
Total Liabilities		\$ 555,783.91	\$ 295,095.50
Net Position:			
Cumulative Results of Operations - Funds from Other than Dedicated Collections		\$ 1,332,443.07	\$ 1,894,932.84
Total Cumulative Results of Operations (Consolidated)		1,332,443.07	1,894,932.84
Total Net Position		\$ 1,332,443.07	\$ 1,894,932.84
Total Liabilities and Net Position		\$ 1,888,226.98	\$ 2,190,028.34

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
STATEMENTS OF NET COST**

**For The Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 (in
dollars)**

	2024	2023
Gross Program Costs:		
Gross Costs	\$ 4,783,393.96	\$ 4,497,728.20
Net Program Costs	4,783,393.96	4,497,728.20
Net Cost of Operations	\$ 4,783,393.96	\$ 4,497,728.20

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024 and 2023
(in dollars)

FY 2024 (CY)

	Funds from Other than Dedicated Collections (Consolidated Totals)	Consolidated Total
Cumulative Results from Operations		
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,894,932.84	\$ 1,894,932.84
Other Adjustments	(15,664.09)	(15,664.09)
Transfers-in/out without reimbursement (+/-)	4,064,000.00	4,064,000.00
Imputed Financing (Note 11)	172,568.28	172,568.28
Net Cost of Operations	<u>(4,783,393.96)</u>	<u>(4,783,393.96)</u>
Net Change in Cumulative Results of Operations	<u>(562,489.77)</u>	<u>(562,489.77)</u>
Total Cumulative Results of Operations	<u>1,332,443.07</u>	<u>1,332,443.07</u>
Net Position	<u>\$ 1,332,443.07</u>	<u>\$ 1,332,443.07</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION
For The Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024 and 2023
(in dollars)

FY 2023 (PY)

	Funds from Other than Dedicated Collections (Consolidated Totals)	Consolidated Total
Cumulative Results from Operations		
Beginning Balance	\$ 2,350,832.56	\$ 2,350,832.56
Other Adjustments	(36,117.02)	(36,117.02)
Transfers-in/out without reimbursement (+/-)	3,945,000.00	3,945,000.00
Imputed Financing	(Note 11) 132,945.50	132,945.50
Net Cost of Operations	(4,497,728.20)	(4,497,728.20)
Net Change in Cumulative Results of Operations	(455,899.72)	(455,899.72)
Total Cumulative Results of Operations	1,894,932.84	1,894,932.84
Net Position	\$ 1,894,932.84	\$ 1,894,932.84

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
STATEMENTS OF BUDGETARY RESOURCES

For The Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 (in dollars)

	2024 Budgetary	2023 Budgetary
Budgetary resources:		
Unobligated balance from prior year budget authority, net (discretionary and mandatory)	(Note 12) \$ 1,725,984.05	\$ 1,474,043.49
Appropriations (discretionary and mandatory)	<u>4,064,000.00</u>	<u>3,945,000.00</u>
Total budgetary resources	<u>\$ 5,789,984.05</u>	<u>\$ 5,419,043.49</u>
Status of budgetary resources:		
New obligations and upward adjustments (total)	(Note 7) \$ 4,638,570.50	\$ 3,802,088.52
Unobligated balance, end of year:		
Exempt from apportionment, unexpired accounts	1,110,687.49	\$ 1,564,820.10
Expired unobligated balance, end of year	<u>40,726.06</u>	<u>52,134.87</u>
Unobligated balance, end of year (total)	<u>1,151,413.55</u>	<u>1,616,954.97</u>
Total budgetary resources	<u>\$ 5,789,984.05</u>	<u>\$ 5,419,043.49</u>
Outlay, net:		
Outlays, net (total) (discretionary and mandatory)	<u>\$ 4,297,415.40</u>	<u>\$ 4,329,664.29</u>
Agency outlays, net (discretionary and mandatory)	<u>\$ 4,297,415.40</u>	<u>\$ 4,329,664.29</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) is an independent agency in the Executive Branch of the federal government. The Board performs ongoing and objective peer review of the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary of Energy under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA) (Public Law 97-425), as amended, including the packaging, transportation, and disposal of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW). The Board also advises and makes recommendations to Congress and the Secretary on technical issues related to nuclear waste management and disposal.

According to the legislative history, Congress created the Board to ensure that an ongoing independent peer review of the Department of Energy's (DOE) nuclear waste management activities would be undertaken. The Board's ongoing technical peer review is unquestionably independent and essential to acceptance by the public and the scientific community for any approach to managing nuclear waste. The Board is the only entity that performs an independent and integrated technical evaluation of all elements of the nuclear waste management system, including packaging and transporting SNF and HLW and developing a repository for the permanent disposal of the wastes.

The Board received a federal appropriation of \$4,064,000 for fiscal year 2024 under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, (Public Law 118-42) which shall remain available until September 30, 2025. Furthermore, the Board received a federal appropriation of \$3,945,000 for fiscal year 2023 under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, (Public Law 117-328) which remained available until September 30, 2024.

Basis of Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared from the accounting records of the Board in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and the form and content for entity financial statements specified by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in OMB Circular A-136, Financial Reporting Requirements. GAAP for Federal entities are standards prescribed by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), which has been designated the official accounting standards-setting body for the Federal Government by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. OMB Circular A-136 requires agencies to prepare financial statements, which include a Balance Sheet, a Statement of Net Cost, a Statement of Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Budgetary Resources (SBR). The Balance Sheet presents, as of September 30, 2024, amounts of future economic benefits owned or managed by the Board (assets), amounts owed by the Board (liabilities), and amounts, which comprise the difference (net position). The Statement of Net Cost reports the full cost of the program, both direct and indirect costs of the output, and the costs of identifiable supporting services provided by other segments within the Board and other reporting entities. The SBR reports an agency's budgetary activity.

Basis of Accounting

Transactions are recorded on the accrual accounting basis in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, without regard to receipt or payment of cash.

Classified Activities

Accounting standards require all reporting entities to disclose that accounting standards allow certain presentations and disclosures to be modified, if needed, to prevent the disclosure of classified information.

Reclassification of Prior Year Amounts

These financial statements for FY 2024 and FY 2023 (prior year) are presented on a comparative basis. NWTRB has reclassified the FY 2023 balance sheet data related to Federal Employee Salary, Leave, and Benefits payable for a comparable format in accordance with U.S. Treasury's updated U.S. Standard General Financial Statement Crosswalk for FY 2024.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Board follows standard federal budgetary accounting policies and practices in accordance with OMB Circular A-11, Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget, dated August 2023. Budgetary accounting facilitates compliance with legal constraints and controls over the use of federal funds. Each year, Congress provides the Board appropriations to incur obligations in support of agency programs. For Fiscal Years (FY) 2024 and 2023, the Board is accountable for general fund appropriations and no-year fund carryover. The Board recognizes budgetary resources as assets when cash (funds held by Treasury) is made available through a non-expenditure transfer from DOE and when spending authority from the offsetting collection is incurred.

Revenues and Other Financing Sources

The Board receives the funding needed to support its programs through appropriations. In FY 2024, the Board received multi-year appropriations that may be used, within statutory limits, for operating and capital expenditures. Prior to FY 2014, the Board received no-year appropriations. Appropriations are recognized as revenues as the related program or administrative expenses are incurred. In FY 2024 and 2023, budgetary resources for the Board included unobligated balances at the beginning of the period, transfers-in during the period, and recoveries of prior year obligations.

Other financing sources for the Board consist of imputed financing sources which are costs financed by other federal entities on behalf of the Board, as required by SFFAS No. 5, *Accounting for Liabilities of the Federal Government*. In certain instances, operating costs of the Board are paid out of funds appropriated to other federal agencies. In accordance with SFFAS 5, all expenses of a federal entity should be reported by that agency regardless of whether the agency will ultimately pay those expenses. Amounts for certain expenses of the Board, which will be paid by other federal agencies, are recorded in the Statement of Net Cost. A related amount is recognized in the Statement of Changes in Net Position as an imputed financing source. The Board records imputed expenses and financing sources for employee retirement plan contributions, group term life insurance, and health benefit costs, which are paid by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Salaries and wages of employees are recognized as accrued payroll expenses and related liabilities as earned. These expenses are recognized as a funded liability when accrued. Annual leave is accrued as it is earned by employees and is included in personnel compensation and benefit costs. An unfunded liability is recognized for earned, but *unused*, annual leave since from a budgetary standpoint, this annual leave will be paid from future appropriations when employees use the leave. The amount accrued is based upon current pay rates for employees. Sick leave and other types of leave that are not vested are expensed when used and no future liability is recognized for these amounts.

The Board's employees participate in one of two retirement programs, either the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), which became effective on January 1, 1987. The Board and its employees both contribute to these systems. Although the Board funds a portion of the benefits under CSRS and FERS and makes the necessary payroll withholdings (as required by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the associated Benefits Administration Letters), it does not report assets associated with these benefit plans in accordance with SFFAS 5.

For CSRS employees, the Board contributes an amount equal to 7% of the employees' basic pay to the plan. For FERS employees, the Board contributes an amount equal to 18.4% of the employees' basic pay to the plan. For FERS-RAE and FRAE employees, the Board contributes an amount equal to 16.5% of the employees' basic pay to the plan.

Both CSRS and FERS employees are eligible to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The TSP is a defined contribution retirement plan intended to supplement the benefits provided under CSRS and FERS. The CSRS employees do not receive matching contributions from the Board. For FERS employees, the Board automatically contributes an amount equal to 1% of the employee's basic pay to the TSP. The Board matches employee contributions up to an additional 5% as follows:

- The first 3% of basic pay is matched dollar for dollar, and
- The next 2% of basic pay is matched at 50 cents on each dollar.

OPM is responsible for reporting assets, accumulated plan benefits, and unfunded liabilities, if any, applicable to CSRS participants and FERS employees government-wide, including the Board's employees. The Board has recognized an Imputed Cost and Imputed Financing Source for the difference between the

estimated service cost and the contributions made by the Board and its covered employees. The estimated cost of pension benefits is based on rates issued by OPM.

Employees are entitled to participate in the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) Program. Participating employees can obtain “basic life” term life insurance, with the employee paying two-thirds of the cost and the Board paying one-third. Additional coverage is optional, to be paid fully by the employee. The basic life coverage may be continued into retirement if certain requirements are met. OPM administers the FEGLI program and is responsible for the reporting of related liabilities. Each fiscal year, OPM calculates the U.S. Government’s service cost for the post-retirement portion of basic life coverage. Because the Board’s contributions to the basic life coverage are fully allocated by OPM to the pre-retirement portion of coverage, the Board has recognized the entire service cost of the post-retirement portion of basic life coverage as an Imputed Cost and Imputed Financing Source.

Assets and Liabilities

Intra-governmental assets and liabilities arise from transactions between the Board and other Federal entities. Funds with the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) comprise of most assets on the Board’s balance sheet. All other assets result from activity with non-federal sources.

Liabilities represent amounts likely to be paid by the Board as a result of transactions that have already occurred. The accounts payable portion of liabilities consist of amounts owed to federal agencies and commercial vendors for goods, services, and other expenses received but not yet paid. Liabilities covered by budgetary or other resources are those liabilities of the Board for which Congress has appropriated funds, or funding is otherwise available to pay amounts due.

Fund Balance with Treasury

The Treasury processes the Board’s receipts and disbursements. The Fund Balance with Treasury is the aggregate amount of the agency’s accounts with Treasury for which the agency is authorized to liquidate obligations, pay funded liabilities, and make expenditures. The fund balance is increased through the receipt of non-expenditure Treasury warrants for appropriations, positive non-expenditure transfers, and other expenditure inflows of funds. The Fund Balance with Treasury is reduced through non-expenditure Treasury Warrants for recessions, negative non-expenditure transfers, disbursements, and other expenditure cash outflows of funds.

The Board’s funds with the Treasury are cash balances from appropriations as of the fiscal year-end from which the Board is authorized to make expenditures and pay liabilities resulting from operational activity.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Property, plant, and equipment (PP&E) have been defined in the Federal Government as tangible items owned by the Federal Government and having an expected useful life of greater than two years. The following policies will be effective for PP&E: (1) PP&E will be reported at acquisition cost, and (2) the capitalization threshold for asset acquisitions is established at \$10,000 (individual assets) and \$100,000 (bulk assets) and have the following useful life:

<u>Asset Type</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
IT Equipment	5 years
Office Furniture	10 years
Leasehold Improvements	Remaining Lease Term

Prepaid and Deferred Charges

Payments in advance of the receipt of goods and services are recorded as prepaid charges at the time of prepayment and recognized as expenses when the related goods and services are received.

Liabilities

Liabilities represent amounts expected to be paid as the result of a transaction or event that has already occurred. Liabilities covered by budgetary resources are liabilities incurred which are covered by realized budgetary resources as of the balance sheet date. Available budgetary resources include new budget authority, spending authority from the offsetting collections, recoveries of unexpired budget authority through downward adjustments of prior year obligations, and unobligated balances of budgetary resources at the beginning of the year. Unfunded liabilities are not considered to be covered by such budgetary resources. Examples of unfunded liabilities are actuarial liabilities for future Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) payments and annual leave. The Government, acting in its sovereign capacity, can abrogate liabilities arising from other than contracts.

Contingencies

The criteria for recognizing contingencies for claims are (1) a past event or exchange transaction has occurred as of the date of the statements; (2) a future outflow or other sacrifice of resources is probable; and (3) the future outflow or sacrifice of resources is measurable (reasonably estimated). The Board recognizes material contingent liabilities in the form of claims, legal action, administrative proceedings, and environmental suits that have been brought to the attention of legal counsel that the ultimate resolution of these proceedings, actions, and claims, will not materially affect the financial position or results of operations.

Net Position

Net position consists of unexpended appropriations and cumulative results of operations. Unexpended appropriations represent amounts of budget authority to include unobligated or obligated balances not rescinded or withdrawn. Cumulative results of operations are comprised of the following: (1) the difference between revenues and expenses, (2) the net amount of transfers of assets in and out without reimbursement, and (3) donations, all since inception of the fund(s).

NOTE 2: FUND BALANCE WITH TREASURY

The Board’s Fund Balance with Treasury comes from unobligated balances at the beginning of the period and transferred in during the period. No trust, revolving or other fund type is used to fund the Board’s activities. The Board operates with a multi-year fund and a no-year fund, where the fund balance of the previous fiscal year is carried forward to the next fiscal year.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Status of Fund Balance with Treasury		
1) Unobligated Balance		
a) Available	\$ 1,110,687.49	\$ 1,564,820.10
b) Unavailable	40,726.06	52,134.87
2) Obligated Balance not yet Disbursed	609,666.28	393,204.35
Total	<u>\$1,761,079.83</u>	<u>\$2,010,159.32</u>

NOTE 3: GENERAL PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT, NET

As of September 30, 2024, the Board shows an equipment total cost of \$337,299.86 and a net book value of \$127,147.15. The Accumulated Depreciation to date is \$207,049.71. The depreciation calculation method used for IT equipment is the straight line with a useful life of 5 years and office furniture is straight line with a useful life of 10 years.

<u>2024</u>	IT Equipment	Furniture	Total
Cost	\$188,972.50	\$148,327.36	\$337,299.86
Accum. Depr.	\$176,767.44	\$33,385.27	\$210,152.71
Net Book Value	<u>\$12,205.06</u>	<u>\$114,942.09</u>	<u>\$127,147.15</u>
<u>2023</u>	IT Equipment	Furniture	Total
Cost	\$188,972.50	\$148,327.36	\$337,299.86
Accum. Depr.	\$138,910.86	\$18,519.98	\$157,430.84
Net Book Value	<u>\$50,061.64</u>	<u>\$129,807.38</u>	<u>\$179,869.02</u>

NOTE 4: LIABILITIES NOT COVERED BY BUDGETARY RESOURCES

Liabilities of the Board are classified as liabilities covered or not covered by budgetary resources. As of September 30, 2024, the Board showed liabilities covered by budgetary resources of \$401,191.86, and liabilities not covered by budgetary resources of \$253,052.29. As of September 30, 2023, the Board showed liabilities covered by budgetary resources of \$76,559.50 and liabilities not covered by budgetary resources of \$218,536.00.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Intragovernmental		
Accounts Payable	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 14,000.00
Other Liabilities	<u>12,577.25</u>	<u>\$ 9,334.42</u>
Total Intragovernmental Liabilities	<u>\$25,777.25</u>	<u>\$23,334.42</u>
Other than Intragovernmental		
Accounts Payable	\$ 347,585.79	\$ 20,177.85
Federal Employee Salary, Leave, and Benefits Payable	<u>\$280,882.11</u>	<u>\$251,583.23</u>
Total Other than Intragovernmental Liabilities	<u>\$628,467.90</u>	<u>\$271,761.08</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$654,245.15</u></u>	<u><u>\$295,095.50</u></u>
Total liabilities not covered by budgetary resources	\$253,053.29	\$218,536.00
Total liabilities covered by budgetary resources	<u>\$401,191.86</u>	<u>\$ 76,559.50</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$654,245.15</u></u>	<u><u>\$295,095.50</u></u>

NOTE 5: OTHER LIABILITIES

Other Intragovernmental Liabilities consisted of Employer Contributions and Payroll Taxes Payable (without reciprocals) and Benefits Contributions Payable.

	FY 2024	
	Current	Total
Intragovernmental		
Benefit Contributions Payable	\$ 9,357.35	\$ 9,357.35
Employer Contributions and Payroll Taxes Payable (without reciprocals)	<u>3,219.90</u>	<u>3,219.90</u>
Total Intragovernmental	<u>\$ 12,577.25</u>	<u>\$12,577.25</u>
Total Other Liabilities	<u><u>\$12,577.25</u></u>	<u><u>\$12,577.25</u></u>

	FY 2023	
	Current	Total
Intragovernmental		
Benefit Contributions Payable	\$ 7,029.43	\$ 7,029.43
Employer Contributions and Payroll Taxes Payable (without reciprocals)	<u>2,304.99</u>	<u>2,304.99</u>
Total Intragovernmental	<u>\$ 9,334.42</u>	<u>\$ 9,334.42</u>
Total Other Liabilities	<u><u>\$ 9,334.42</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,334.42</u></u>

NOTE 6: LEASES

Entity as Lessee

The Board leases office space at 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300, Arlington, VA, which is an intragovernmental lease as defined by SFFAS No. 54. The lease entered in July 2012 became

effective August 2012 and was scheduled to expire July 2017. The lease was extended effective August 1, 2017, and is now scheduled to expire July 31, 2027. Furthermore, the Board leased additional office space at 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1305, Arlington, VA. The additional lease which is also an intragovernmental lease as defined by SFFAS No. 54, was effective July 1, 2020, and also is scheduled to expire July 31, 2027.

The following is a schedule of future minimum lease payments as required by the lease and occupancy agreement:

<u>Fiscal Year Ended</u>	<i>Occupancy Agreement Number (Suite)</i>		<u>FY Total</u>
	<i>AVA08273 (Suite 1300)</i>	<i>AVA09084 (Suite 1305)</i>	
30-Sep-25	\$263,405	\$123,077	\$386,482
30-Sep-26	\$265,973	\$123,847	\$389,820
31-Jul-27	\$216,478	\$103,866	\$320,344
Total	\$745,856	\$350,790	\$1,096,646

NOTE 7: APPORTIONMENT CATEGORIES OF NEW OBLIGATIONS AND UPWARD ADJUSTMENTS: DIRECT VS. REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS

Apportionment is a plan, approved by OMB, to spend resources provided by one of the annual appropriations acts, a supplemental appropriations act, a continuing resolution, or a permanent law (mandatory appropriations). Resources are apportioned by the Treasury Account Fund Symbol (TAFS). The apportionment identifies amounts available for obligation and expenditure.

It specifies and limits the obligations that may be incurred, and expenditures made (or makes other limitations, as appropriate) for specified time periods, programs, activities, projects, objects, or any combination thereof. An apportioned amount may be further subdivided by an agency into allotments, sub-allotments, and allocations. The Board is not subject to apportionment, nor does it have reimbursable authority. Therefore, all obligations are direct, exempt.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Exempt	\$4,638,570.50	\$3,802,088.52

NOTE 8: UNDELIVERED ORDERS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

Undelivered orders represent the value of goods and services ordered and obligated that have not been received. This amount includes any orders for which advance payment has been made but for which delivery or performance has not yet occurred.

The amount of the Board’s budgetary resources obligated for undelivered orders was \$288,936.66 and \$316,644.85 as of September 30, 2024, and 2023, respectively.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Federal Undelivered Orders	\$65,108.82	\$181,958.51
Non Federal Undelivered Orders	\$223,826.84	\$134,686.34
Total Undelivered Orders	<u>\$288,935.66</u>	<u>\$316,644.85</u>
Paid Undelivered Orders	\$ -	\$ -
Unpaid Undelivered Orders	288,935.66	316,644.85
Total Paid/Unpaid Undelivered Orders	<u>\$288,935.66</u>	<u>\$316,644.85</u>

NOTE 9: EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SBR AND THE BUDGET OF THE US GOVERNMENT

SFFAS No. 7, *Accounting for Revenue and Other Financing Sources and Concepts for Reconciling Budgetary and Financial Accounting*, requires an explanation of material differences between budgetary resources available, the status of those resources and outlays as presented in the SBR to the related actual balances published in the Budget of the United States Government (Budget).

The budget will include FY2024 actual budgetary execution information is scheduled for publication in February 2025, which will be available through OMB’s website at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb>. Accordingly, information required for such disclosure is not available at the time of publication of these financial statements. Balances reported in the FY 2023 SBR and the related FY 2025 President’s Budget reflect the following:

FY2023	(In Millions)			
	Budgetary Resources	New Obligations & Upward Adjustments (Total)	Distributed Offsetting Receipts	Net Outlays
Statement of Budgetary Resources	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$4
<i>Budget of the U.S. Government</i>	\$6	\$4	\$0	\$4
Difference	<u>(\$1)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

The difference between the Statement of Budgetary Resources and the Budget of the United States Government for budgetary resources, obligations incurred, and net outlays are primarily due to rounding. A portion of the difference in the budgetary resources is due to expired unobligated balances being reported in the SBR but not in the Budget of the United States Government.

NOTE 10: RECONCILIATION OF NET COST TO OUTLAYS

The Board has reconciled its budgetary obligations and non-budgetary resources available to its net cost of operations.

For year ending September 30, 2024 (CY)

Net Operating Cost (SNC)	Intragovernmental	Other Than Intragovernmental	Total
Net Operating Cost	\$ 1,229,030.84	\$ 3,554,363.12	\$ 4,783,393.96
Components of Net Operating Cost Not Part of the Budgetary Outlays			
Property, plant, and equipment depreciation		\$ (52,721.87)	\$ (52,721.87)
Increase/(Decrease) in Assets not Affecting Budget Outlays:			
(Increase)/Decrease in Liabilities not Affecting Budget Outlays:			
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ (228,146.70)	\$ (228,146.70)
Federal Employee Salary, Leave, and Benefits Payable		\$ (28,876.43)	\$ (28,876.43)
Other Liabilities	\$ (3,242.83)	\$ (422.45)	\$ (3,665.28)
			\$ -
Other Financing Sources			
Imputed Cost	\$ (172,568.28)		\$ (172,568.28)
Total Components of Net Operating Cost not Part of the Budget Outlays:	\$ (175,811.11)	\$ (310,167.45)	\$ (485,978.56)
Net Outlays (Calculated Total)	\$ 1,053,219.73	\$ 3,244,195.67	\$ 4,297,415.40
Financing Sources:			
Non Expenditure financing sources transfers in			\$ -
Total Components of the budget outlays that are not part of net operating cost	\$ -		\$ -
Related Amounts in the Statement of Budgetary Resources			
Outlays, net (SBR Line 4190)	\$ 1,053,219.73	\$ 3,244,195.67	\$ 4,297,415.40
Other Resources or Adjustment to Net Obligated Resources that Do Not Affect Net Cost of Operations			
Agency Outlays, Net (SBR Line 4210)			\$ 4,297,415.40

For year ending September 30, 2023 (PY)

Net Operating Cost (SNC)	Intragovernmental	Other Than Intragovernmental	Total
Net Operating Cost	\$ 1,607,504.65	\$ 2,890,223.55	\$ 4,497,728.20
Components of Net Operating Cost Not Part of the Budgetary Outlays			
Property, plant, and equipment depreciation		\$ (52,577.82)	\$ (52,577.82)
Increase/(Decrease) in Assets not Affecting Budget Outlays:			
Advances and Prepayments		\$ (49,003.07)	\$ (49,003.07)
(Increase)/Decrease in Liabilities not Affecting Budget Outlays:			
Accounts Payable	\$ (13,558.60)	\$ 52,480.66	\$ 38,922.06
Federal Employees and Veterans Benefit Payable		\$ 26,215.18	\$ 26,215.18
Other Liabilities	\$ 1,201.96	\$ 123.28	\$ 1,325.24
			\$ -
Other Financing Sources			
Imputed Cost	\$ (132,945.50)		\$ (132,945.50)
Total Components of Net Operating Cost not Part of the Budget Outlays:	\$ (145,302.14)	\$ (22,761.77)	\$ (168,063.91)
Net Outlays (Calculated Total)	\$ 1,462,202.51	\$ 2,867,461.78	\$ 4,329,664.29
Financing Sources:			
Related Amounts in the Statement of Budgetary Resources			
Outlays, net (SBR Line 4190)	\$ 1,462,202.51	\$ 2,867,461.78	\$ 4,329,664.29
Other Resources or Adjustment to Net Obligated Resources that Do Not Affect Net Cost of Operations			
Agency Outlays, Net (SBR Line 4210)			\$ 4,329,664.29

NOTE 11: INTER-ENTITY COSTS

NWTRB recognizes certain inter-entity costs for goods and services that are received from other federal entities at no cost or at a cost less than the full cost. Certain costs of the providing entity that are not fully reimbursed are recognized as imputed cost and are offset by imputed revenue. Such imputed costs relate to employee benefits. NWTRB recognizes as inter-entity costs the amount of accrued pension and post-retirement benefit expenses for current employees. The assets and liabilities associated with such benefits are the responsibility of the administering agency, OPM. For the periods ended September 30, 2024, and 2023, respectively, inter-entity costs were as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Office of Personnel Management	\$172,568.28	\$132,945.50
Total Imputed Financing Sources	<u>\$172,568.28</u>	<u>\$132,945.50</u>

NOTE 12 - NET ADJUSTMENTS TO UNOBLIGATED BALANCE, BROUGHT FORWARD, OCTOBER 1

The Unobligated Balance Brought Forward from the prior fiscal year has been adjusted for recoveries of prior year paid and unpaid obligations. The Adjustments to Unobligated Balance Brought Forward, October 1, as of September 30, 2024, and 2023, consisted of the following:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Unobligated Balance Brought Forward from Prior Year, October 1	\$1,616,954.97	\$1,510,160.51
Recoveries of Prior Year Obligations, unpaid	124,393.17	
Recoveries of Prior Year Obligations, paid	(300.00)	
Balance withdrawn to Treasury (expiring fund)	(15,664.09)	(36,117.02)
Unobligated Balance from Prior Year Budget Authority, Net	<u>\$1,725,984.05</u>	<u>\$1,474,043.49</u>

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT AND MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

Summary of Financial Statement Audit

Audit Opinion	Unmodified					
Restatement	No					
Material Weaknesses	Beginning Balance	New	Resolved	Consolidated	Reassessed	Ending Balance
None	0	0	0	0	0	0

Summary of Management Assurances¹

Effectiveness of Internal Controls over Financial Reporting (FMFIA § 2)

Audit Opinion	Unmodified					
Material Weaknesses	Beginning Balance	New	Resolved	Consolidated	Reassessed	Ending Balance
None	0	0	0	0	0	0

Effectiveness of Internal Controls over Operations (FMFIA § 2)

Audit Opinion	Unmodified					
Material Weaknesses	Beginning Balance	New	Resolved	Consolidated	Reassessed	Ending Balance
None	0	0	0	0	0	0

¹ The Board does not provide management assurance related to Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act § 4 or Section 803(a) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act as it does not own or operate a financial management system. The Board obtains accounting services from a federal shared service provider and inherently relies on their financial system internal controls.

**NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD
AUDIT REPORT
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**



**ALLMOND & COMPANY, LLC
Certified Public Accountants
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Lanham, Maryland 20706
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Independent Auditor's Report

Board Members
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board:

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

In accordance with the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002, we have audited the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB) financial statements. NWTRB financial statements comprise the balance sheets as of September 30, 2024 and 2023; the related statements of net cost, changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the fiscal years then ended; and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, NWTRB's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, NWTRB's financial position as of September 30, 2024 and 2023, and its net cost of operations, changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Bulletin No. 24-02, *Audit Requirements for Federal Financial Statements*. Our responsibilities under those standards and OMB Bulletin No. 24-02 are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the NWTRB and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for

- the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance U.S. generally accepted accounting principles;
- preparing, measuring, and presenting the Required Supplementary Information (RSI) in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles;
- preparing and presenting other information included in NWTRB's Annual Financial Report (AFR), and ensuring the consistency of that information with the audited financial statements and the RSI; and
- designing, implementing, and maintaining effective internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to (1) obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and (2) to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit of the financial statements conducted in accordance with GAAS, generally accepted government auditing standards (GAGAS), and OMB Bulletin No. 24-02 will always detect a material misstatement or material weakness when it exists.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered to be material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, GAGAS, and OMB Bulletin No. 24-02, we;

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures that are responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to an audit of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Perform other procedures we consider necessary in the circumstances.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope of and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the financial statement audit.

Required Supplementary Information (RSI)

U.S. generally accepted accounting principles issued by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) require that the information in the RSI be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by FASAB, which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the financial statements in appropriate operational, economic, or historical context.

We have applied certain limited procedures to the RSI in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards. These procedures consisted of (1) inquiring of management about the methods used to prepare the RSI and (2) comparing the RSI for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during the audit of the NWTRB's financial statements, in order to report omissions or material departures from FASAB guidelines, if any, identified by these limited procedures. We did not audit and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI because the limited procedures we applied do not provide sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

NWTRB's other information contains a wide range of information, some of which is not directly related to the financial statements. This information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements or the RSI. Management is responsible for the other information included in NWTRB's Annual Financial Report. The other information comprises the *Message from the Chair, Management's and Discussion Analysis, and Summary of Financial Statement Audit and Management Assurance* sections but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exist between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In connection with our audits of NWTRB's financial statements, we considered NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting, consistent with the auditor's responsibilities discussed below.

Results of Our Consideration of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described below, and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies² or to express an opinion on the effectiveness of NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses; however, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

Basis for Results of Our Consideration of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We performed our procedures related to NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards.

Responsibilities of Management for Internal Control over Financial Reporting

NWTRB management is responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of NWTRB's financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards, we

² A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit the attention by those charged with governance.

considered NWTRB's internal control relevant to the financial statement audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting. We are required to report all deficiencies that are considered to be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not consider all internal controls relevant to operating objectives, such as those controls relevant to preparing performance information and ensuring efficient operations.

Definition and Inherent Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

An entity's internal control over financial reporting is a process effected by those charged with governance, management, and other personnel, the objectives of which are to provide reasonable assurance that;

- transactions are properly recorded, processed, and summarized to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition, and
- transactions are executed in accordance with provisions of applicable laws, including those governing the use of budget authority, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements due to fraud or error.

Intended Purpose of Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our consideration of NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting and the results of our procedures, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of NWTRB's internal control over financial reporting. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards in considering internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, this report on internal control over financial reporting is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

In connection with our audits of NWTRB's financial statements, we tested compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements consistent with our auditor's responsibilities discussed below.

Results of Our Tests for Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

Our tests for compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements disclosed no instances of noncompliance for fiscal year 2024 that would be reportable under U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to NWTRB. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Basis for Results of Our Tests for Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

We performed our tests of compliance in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for Tests of Compliance section below.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

NWTRB management is responsible for complying with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to NWTRB.

Auditor's Responsibilities for Tests of Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

Our responsibility is to test compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to NWTRB that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in NWTRB's financial statements, and to perform certain other limited procedures. Accordingly, we did not test compliance with all laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements applicable to NWTRB. We caution that noncompliance may occur and not be detected by these tests.

Intended Purpose of Report on Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Contracts, and Grant Agreements

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of compliance with selected provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards in considering compliance. Accordingly, this report on compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements is not suitable for any other purpose.

Allmond & Company, LLC

Lanham, MD
November 15, 2024