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For Immediate Release

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External Affairs

Volcanic Hazard at Yucca Mountain Topic of Panel Meeting and Field Trip

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's (the Board) Panel on Structural Geology & Geoengineering will hold a meeting and field trip September 14 - 16, 1992, on volcanic hazard and the associated vulnerabilities of the proposed high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The meeting will be held the afternoon of the 14th and all day the 15th at the Alexis Park Hotel, 375 East Harmon, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. In conjunction with the meeting, the panel will host a field trip on Wednesday, September 16, to areas of recent geologic investigations near Lathrop Wells and in Crater Flat. Both the meeting and the field trip are open to the public. To allow for advance planning, those wishing to participate in the field trip must notify the Board's office by September 4, 1992 (see details below).

The panel meeting will run from 1 P.M. to 5:15 P.M. on Monday, September 14, and from 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, September 15. Panel members will hear updates from the Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractors, the state of Nevada and its contractors, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and individual scientists on the geologic and geophysical studies related to volcanism, including geochronology, paleomagnetism, and soils and geomorphology. Panel members also will review probabilistic studies of volcanic hazard and receive updated information on volcanic effects studies. The meeting will conclude with a round-table discussion of issues related to volcanism.

The field trip will take place on Wednesday, September 16. Sponsored by the Board panel and organized by the DOE, the field trip will allow participants to visit areas of recent geologic investigations near Lathrop Wells and in Crater Flat. The DOE will provide transportation departing from the Valley Bank Center, 101 Convention Center Drive, in Las Vegas at 7 A.M. Participants will return to the Valley Bank Center at approximately 7 P.M. There will be lunch break and discussion at Steve's Pass. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch.

Persons wishing to participate in the field trip *must* register in advance by calling Frank Randall at the Board's Office of External Affairs, (703) 235-4473, no later than September 4, 1992. Participants are urged to bring the following: a bag lunch, a jacket and rain gear, sturdy walking shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. Ice chests and water will be provided.

Transcripts of the meeting will be available on a library-loan basis from Victoria Reich, Board librarian, beginning October 27, 1992. For further information, contact Paula N. Alford, Director, External Affairs, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 910, Arlington, Virginia 22209; (703) 235-4473.
