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For Immediate Release

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External Affairs

Board Panel Examines System Safety, Human Factors Engineering, MPC Design, and Transportation Issues

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's (the Board) Panel on Transportation & Systems will hold a meeting June 14, 1995, in Arlington, Virginia. The focus of the meeting will be system safety and human factors engineering for the Department of Energy's (DOE) civilian radioactive waste management program and its site-characterization efforts at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Systems safety and human factors engineering are important management tools used to enhance the safety of the overall operation of a given system. The panel also is interested in recent developments in the DOE's transportation program. The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 8:30 A.M. and will be held at the Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston (near the Ballston Metro stop on the Orange Line), 4610 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203; Tel (703) 243-9800; Fax (703) 527-2677.

The morning agenda includes presentations on the systems engineering management plan and on safety plans and procedures being used at the DOE Yucca Mountain project. In addition, the panel will hear about the safety analysis of tunnel boring machine operations in Yucca Mountain and the DOE's hazard-tracking database for the program. In the afternoon, the panel will hear an update on the multipurpose canister (MPC) design effort and presentations on transportation issues, such as truck cask certification, trailer testing, transportation risk management, potential heavy haul and rail routes to the potential repository site, and transportation routing policy.

Time will be set aside on the agenda for comments and questions from the public. To ensure that everyone wishing to speak is provided time to do so, the Board encourages those who have comments to sign the *Public Comment Register*, which will be located at the sign-in table. Those registering are advised that, depending on the number of people wishing to speak, a time limit may have to be set on the length of individual remarks. However, written comments of any length may be submitted for the record.

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board was created by Congress in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 to evaluate the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the DOE in its program to manage the disposal of the nation's high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. In that same legislation, Congress directed the DOE to characterize a site at Yucca

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Mountain, Nevada, for its suitability as a potential location for a permanent repository for the disposal of that waste.

Transcripts of the meeting will be available on computer disk or on a library-loan basis in paper format from Davonya Barnes, Board staff, beginning August 9, 1995. For further information, contact Frank Randall, External Affairs, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 910, Arlington, Virginia 22209; (703) 235-4473.

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