The

Radioactive Exchange®

To promote the exchange of views and information on radioactive waste management

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DOE ANNOUNCES INTENT TO HIRE HLW SITE INTEGRATION CONTRACTOR

Citing the complexity of the HLW program and the need for its continued integrity, DOE has just announced a series of "management enhancements," the key element of which will be the procurement of an outside "Systems Engineering and Design" (SE&D) contractor to integrate site characterization work. The objectives for the SE&D contractor and the overall initiative include: (1) attaining consistency in critical test and evaluation work that will lead to both site selection and licensing, (2) improving specification of headquarter requirements to project teams, leading to clearer understanding and improved responses, and (3) improving efficiency in total program management (See **Rusche Interview** for more information). The intent is also to eliminate work duplicated at each of the candidate sites. For example, currently there are three different projects using three different contractors to design aspects of the waste package or repository that in the end will be the same at all sites.
(See **DOE** in **the HLW Focus)**

US ECOLOGY NAMES THREE CANDIDATE LLRW BURIAL SITES IN CALIFORNIA

US Ecology has selected three southern California desert sites as primary candidates for California's low-level radioactive waste disposal site. The three are: Ward Valley, about 25 miles west of Needles; Silurian Valley, 15 miles north of Baker (both in San Bernardino County); and, Panamint Valley about 30 miles north of Trona in Inyo County. All are located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property but none have been recommended for wilderness protection by either the BLM or Senator Cranston's proposed Desert Preservation Act.

Two alternate site areas were also identified in the event any of the three primary selections are found unsuitable during site characterization. The alternates are Fenner Valley and Danby Basin in San Bernardino County. All of the potential areas are known for their very low annual rainfall.
(See **US Ecology** pg. 2)

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(**US Ecology** from pg. 1)

Comprehensive Public Input

With the aid of the League of Women Voters Southern California Regional Task Force, US Ecology established an independent Citizens Advisory Committee to assist in the screening of possible sites. Two rounds of consultation interviews were held with Native American groups to include cultural resources concerns in the decision. A series of over 25 public meetings and workshops was held in desert communities to inform and involve citizens. The meetings were designed to obtain advice from desert residents about criteria to be used in narrowing the broad area under study, and later, to evaluate the suitability of 16 candidate site areas. Each of the 16 areas is believed to be suitable from a technical standpoint.

Citizens' Top Picks

The Citizens Advisory Committee's nearly unanimous choice was the upper Ward Valley site. While unpopulated, it is still reasonably close to employment sources and services in Needles and is located next to existing electric transmission lines and a power substation.

Ward Valley also has interstate highway and nearby rail access and there is no agriculture, mining or conflict with military activities. According to Ron Gaynor, Vice President of US Ecology, "the site appears to offer considerable depth to groundwater, as do all the sites."

Members of the advisory committee also viewed the Silurian Valley favorably. They called particular attention to the site's good highway access and the fact that there was no population or agricultural activity in the basin. Gaynor remarked that they were also aware that many residents of Baker, the nearest community, are interested in the employment opportunities and local purchasing the disposal facility will provide.

The Panamint Valley location was also frequently mentioned in public meeting comments as being favorable. "Isolation was the reason for its popularity," Mr. Gaynor explained, "although I have to stress that each of the candidate sites is fairly remote from human habitation."

Inyo County Expresses Support

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution by unanimous vote urging that potential sites in their country be thoroughly studied before being dropped from consideration. Community acceptance is expected to be an important factor in selection of the final site.

While the advisory committee also gave broadly favorable ratings to Fenner Valley and Danby Basin, these areas will not be investigated further unless a prime site is eliminated for technical reasons.

Site Characterization Begins

US Ecology and its consultants will now begin a year-long program of technical studies at each of the sites, according to Assistant Project Manager Steve Romano. The studies will define groundwater and soil characteristics, geological features, weather conditions and air quality, plant and animal species, and potential archeological remains in the site's vicinity.

Romano also noted that local committees will be formed for each of the candidate sites. These committees will review facility design concepts including enhanced disposal technologies, mitigation of local impacts, and economic benefits.

Final Site Selection

By early 1988, US Ecology will select a single preferred site and file a license application with the state. A state-prepared Environmental Impact Report will follow. The Department of Health Services will then hold formal public hearings on US Ecology's proposal. **

LLRW DESTINED FOR HANFORD REQUIRES CERTIFICATION AS NON-RCRA REGULATED

Effective this year -- August 1, 1987 -- US Ecology is expected to be required by the State of Washington to require that shipments of LLRW accepted at the commercial LLRW site be certified that they contain no EPA RCRA-regulated waste. Under current EPA regulations this would mean waste that contains materials listed as hazardous under RCRA, or exhibit properties similar to RCRA-listed hazardous materials will not be accepted for disposal.

The certification is expected to be included as part of the manifest that is required to accompany all shipments of LLRW to the Washington State burial facility.

Tough Inspection, Enforcement

To ensure compliance with the certification requirement, the state will conduct random inspections of waste shipments to the burial facility. The inspections would include RCRA and radiological analyses. Violaters who are found to ship RCRA-regulated waste will face civil penalties. **

WASHINGTON STATE DEVELOPING LIABILITY COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE USERS

Elaine Carlin, who is Executive Director of the Northwest Compact Committee and with the Washington State Department of Ecology, reported in an exclusive interview with the EXCHANGE that "a basis for possible draft regulations" intended to require that users of the Hanford commercial LLRW disposal facility have certain liability insurance coverage has been drafted and will be mailed to all site users for comments this coming month (March). She emphasized that what is being done now is prior to the formal rulemaking process to obtain the broadest possible input as early as possible. The Northwest Compact Executive Director further cautioned that the material is not draft regulations or rules but the basis upon which draft rules would be developed.

According to Ms. Carlin the formal rulemaking is expected to be initiated this fall. A public meeting on the "draft basis" now being circulated for comment will be held on May 1. Final regulations are planned to be in place by the end of 1987.

Three-Fold Coverage Requirements

As now planned eventual liability regulations would cover all parties that are involved in the processing, packaging, transporting and burial of LLRW destined for disposal at the Hanford facility. Three categories of coverage requirements are currently being investigated: bodily injury, property damage, and environmental impairment. There would be specific conditions set for each category of coverage. For example, Ms. Carlin explained the intent is to say to a site user "you have to have this kind of liability coverage for bodily injury, this kind of coverage for property damage, and this to cover environmental impairment."

The upcoming regulations would not only specify the minimum dollar amount of coverage, but also the instruments that must be executed to obtain the necessary coverage. [EDITORS NOTE: For a **Progress Report** on this initiative and an opportunity to discuss the proposal with Ms. Carlin, plan to attend **the Third Radioactive Exchange Decisionmakers' Forum, June 16-19, Traverse City, Michigan,** which includes a special panel session on liability issues. See **Calendar** for further information.] **

BECHTEL FUNDS R&D ON "PYRAMID" TYPE LLRW DISPOSAL FACILITY

On February 19, Bechtel Group, Inc., announced it was providing funds to support further research on engineering concepts utilized in the construction of the Egyptian pyramids to develop a safe permanent disposal facility for hazardous chemical and low-level radioactive waste.

The funds were awarded under the company's internal Technical Excellence Program to one of its engineers, Fred Feizollahi. Engineer Feizollahi's idea is to lock up dangerous waste in "subtle modern pyramids

about 20 feet high," in a facility that "meshes with the natural environment."

Interlocking Cannister Structure

Feizollahi envisions "sealing the wastes in interlocking concrete boxes that would be stacked together in virtually impervious and immobile mini-pyramids." Measuring less than seven feet on a side, the individual boxes could easily be loaded and moved. Designed with interlocking cleats, the boxes lock into their mates to make a virtually indestructible monolith.

The finished structure would accommodate ground movement, strongly resisting earth movements, such as earthquakes, and the erosive forces that can damage most waste sites. This system, Feizollahi says, virtually would eliminate the leakage into ground water that is the most frequent problem with unsophisticated burial techniques.

"A monitoring system under the structure [would allow] tracking the performance of the pyramid to further reduce the already minimal risk of leaks and liability," according Feizollahi.

During his 17 years as an engineer, Feizollahi has worked on 24 waste projects around the world. The author of 19 articles and papers on the subject of radioactive and hazardous chemical wastes, Feizollahi has assembled a four-person Bechtel team with 60 years engineering experience to help him develop the concept. **

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

The WA State Department of Ecology invites those qualified to submit proposals to formulate design elements and determine site specific techniques (to ensure compliance with RCRA and AEA) and detail associated costs necessary for site closure and PC&M of the commercial low-level radioactive waste disposal facility at Hanford, WA. Expertise necessary in geotechnical, civil, chemical, and environmental engineering, hydrogeology, soil mechanics, and radiation health physics. Phased Project 3-8 months. Budget all phases 0.1M-0.2M, Call (206) 459-6228 for RFP. Proposal deadline: March 20.

POSITION OPENINGS

WASHINGTON STATE SEEKING EXPERIENCED NUCLEAR WASTE PROFESSIONALS

The Washington State Department of Ecology has four (4) openings for professionals with experience in high level nuclear waste management. The positions are: 1) policy (non-technical) issues program manager; 2) public involvement program manager; 3) transportation program specialist; and 4) on-site representative inspector. The first three positions will be based on Olympia, Washington, and the last position will be based at Hanford, Washington.

Descriptions of the positions, minimum qualifications, salaries, and application procedures can be obtained by calling the Office of Nuclear Waste Management at (206) 459-6670 and asking for a "job application package." Applications must be received by March 4, 1987.

The State of Washington is an equal opportunity employer. Contact: Linda Steinmann or Gary Rothwell, Office of Nuclear Waste Management (206) 459-6670. **

EPRI BRC TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

Patricia J. Robinson and Robert A. Shaw
EPRI LLRW Program

Background

Over the past several years, there has been considerable interest by the nuclear industry in the NRC explicitly defining an activity level in plant waste materials at which the radiological impacts would be so low as to be considered Below Regulatory Concern (BRC). This interest was also reflected in the Low-Level Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985 in which it was mandated that the NRC establish procedures for acting expeditiously on petitions to exempt specific waste streams from the NRC regulations. In response to this mandate, the NRC published in the **Federal Register,** August 29, 1986, a policy statement and implementation plan for the handling of such petitions. The publication by the NRC of this policy statement and implementation plan has provided the long-sought opportunity for the nuclear industry to pursue the exemption of waste streams with very low activity levels from the NRC's regulations.

The implementation plan is explicitly noted to be applicable only to multiple waste producers on a national scale (e.g., nuclear power plants). The implementation plan delineates 14 NRC decision criteria which must be adequately addressed in a rulemaking petition. Because of the industry-wide applicability and the sizable technical effort required to respond to the 14 decision criteria and to support the development of such a petition, several utilities have requested that EPRI provide the technical support required for one or more rulemaking petitions. The BRC Technical Support Program has been approved by the EPRI Engineering & Operations Task Force and the Low Level Waste Subcommittee. The EEI is working in conjunction with EPRI and will support the rulemaking effort by submitting actual petitions to the NRC.

Benefits

A favorable ruling by the NRC on a BRC rulemaking petition would allow utilities to use alternative disposal methods to disposal at licensed facilities for the specific waste streams addressed by the petition. It is likely that as much as 60% of a particular waste stream such as dry active waste could be disposed of by means other than shipment to Barnwell or Hanford. This would result in several thousand cubic feet of waste being exempted at direct operating cost savings in excess of $300,000 per year per plant at current transportation and burial costs.

The above reduction in the waste volumes shipped to a licensed burial facility would also assist utilities in meeting the Low-Level Waste Policy Amendments Act allocation volumes and the INPO Performance Goals for solid waste volume generation. In addition to these direct benefits, the uncertainties regarding the availability of future disposal facilities could significantly increase the importance of a BRC exemption should disposal space become even more limited. Plant life extension and decommissioning are two examples where BRC exemption could be highly beneficial.

EPRI Objectives and Program Description

The objective of the EPRI BRC effort is to provide the technical data required for the development of a rulemaking petition to exempt specific nuclear plant waste streams as being Below Regulatory Concern (BRC).

Based on in-depth discussions with the NRC, utility representatives and industry consultants, several research needs for the BRC Technical Support Program have been identified. The research needs identified directly support the 14 decision criteria contained in the NRC policy statement and implementation plan. Twelve specific technical research projects or tasks and two program administration tasks have been identified and are listed in Table 1.

Table 1

Below Regulatory Concern
Program Outline

Task Description
BRC Waste Stream Selection & Evaluation
Ranking of Controlling Radionuclides
Cost/Benefit Evaluation of BRC Wastes
Critical Review of IMPACTS-BRC Code
Radiation Variability & Sorting Evaluation
Radionuclide Distribution Development
Accident Scenario Base Assessment
Monitoring/Curie Estimation Evaluation
Non-Radiological Waste Characterization and Environmental Assessment
Radiological Impact Assessment
Compliance & Guideline Development
BRC Waste Stream Documentation Preparation
Program Coordination
Technical Advisor Committee

It is expected that the program duration would be two years.

The benefits of the BRC program would accrue to all nuclear plants and could prove to be of substantially greater benefit to the nuclear industry in the long term as existing burial sites approach closure. **

IN THE NORTHEAST

The Northeast Compact Commission has announced that they successfully completed negotiations and a contract has been awarded to Roy F. Weston to assist the Commission in developing a regional management plan. At their recent meeting on February 24 the Commission considered a petition submitted by **Washington, D.C.** to join the compact. The petition was denied for lack of sufficient supporting material.

IN THE SOUTHEAST

A comment made by **Chem-Nuclear Systems President Victor Barnhart** at a luncheon of a Wilmington North Carolina Rotary Club, stating that there was no technical need to build a LLRW in North Carolina because his company's Barnwell facility could continue to take its current input of waste for 25 more years before it used up its licensed land, has rekindled the fires opposing continued use of the S. Carolina facility. Governor Carroll Campbell took the opportunity at the National Governors' Association Winter Meeting to emphasize his opposition to the continued operation of Barnwell as a national disposal facility. S.C. legislator and S.E. Compact Commissioner Harriet Keyserling reacted by stating that the only way the site can remain open past 1992 is with legislative approval and she could not conceive of that happening.

The South Carolina newspaper "The State" followed Barnhart's comments with a scathing editorial charging that Chem-Nuclear has now changed its position from supporting former Governor Riley's effort to establish regional compacts and now wants "to sabotage the Southeastern Compact and South Carolina's public policy to keep it going."

Then, in a Letter to the Editor of "The State", President Barnhart voiced his dismay at the editorial attack and challenged the paper to "prove that there is a technical, environmental or economical justification for building a new low-level radioactive disposal facility in North Carolina, or any other state at this time." He defended his assertion that there is no need for new disposal facilities and Chem-Nuclear's change in position regarding support for the compacting process by citing the significant decrease in LLRW accepted for disposal. As stated in his letter:

> "It is absolutely clear that the assumptions made in the early 1980s, which led to the compacting process, are no longer valid. At that time it was projected that by the late 1980s as much as five million cubic feet of waste would need to be disposed of each year in the United States. ...[W]e are now projecting only 1.6 million cubic feet of waste will be disposed of nationwide in 1987. We are not projecting any significant increases in volume in the coming years. Development of a new site for the Southeast would cost millions of dollars, a cost that will be borne by all consumers. This cost translates into perhaps 10 times what disposal costs are now at the Barnwell facility."

IN THE CENTRAL MIDWEST

Chem-Nuclear's quiet pursuit of an NRC license to operate a supercompactor at Channahon, IL (See EXCHANGE, Vol. 5, No. 20), may be a case of winning the battle but losing the war, in the opinion of state public interest groups who follow LLRW issues.

Joanna Hoelscher of Citizens for a Better Environment expects that Chem Nuclear's failure to inform the local community of their activities will have far-reaching impact. "They've hurt their own chances of being selected to operate the Central Midwest's disposal facility, but I don't think they realize the damage they've done to the entire siting process. It's got to be conducted fairly and openly if it's going to be successful."

Illinois League of Women Voters Vice President Gretchen Monti claims that Chem Nuclear was reacting to an amendment to Illinois' LLRW management law that was passed in 1986. "Although they said secrecy was necessary for competitive reasons, I think they were trying to beat the

clock. The state can't issue a license to a waste management facililty unless the compact commission has designated Illinois as the host state for that facililty, and it will have licensing authority any day now."

Chem-Nuclear President Victor Barnhart, contacted at the firm's Columbia SC office, stated that the company was very surprised by the "local reaction considering that the proposed facility is fairly innocuous." The company is currently in discussions with various local elements voicing opposition to the VR equipment.

Will County, wherein the Channahon facililty is located, has filed a court suit charging a zoning violation.

IN THE MIDWEST

Lee Jager has resigned from the Midwest Compact Commission. He has been replaced by **David F. Hales,** a professor at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources.

AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION

At their 1987 Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., the National Governors' Association adopted a policy resolution calling upon Congress to direct the Department of Energy to sponsor a study by the National Academy of Sciences to establish safe and, to the greatest extent possible, site-independent facility designs for low-level waste disposal. In addition, the Academy was called upon to survey existing practices and databases for compaction, volume reduction, packaging, containment, and classification of wastes.

Interestingly, the resolution does not call upon the states to meet the upcoming site development milestones or develop new disposal capacity. However the new Governor of S. Carolina, Republican Carroll Campbell, was not going to let his fellow Chief Executives forget about the statutory commitments in the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act (LLRWPAA) for states and compacts to develop new LLRW disposal sites. In a statement not unlike that made in past year by former Governor Riley, he warned his fellow governors that South Carolina would not be available as a national disposal site, and that they ought to be working toward meeting the LLRWPAA milestones.

IN THE INDUSTRY

Kaiser Engineers, Inc. has expanded its services in environmental control and waste management with the formation of an Environmental Controls and Remediation Department. The new department has consolidated Kaiser Engineers' operations perfoming engineering, construction management and consulting services for the management of radioactive and hazardous waste projects. This includes the decommissioning, decontamination and reclamation of waste sites. **Beverly S. Ausmus** has joined Kaiser Engineers as manager of the department. Dr. Ausmus was most recently the program manager for environmental restoration with Bechtel Inational, Inc. Also joining the company are senior chemical engineer **Laura A. Hofman,** lead health physicist **Paula A. Trinoskey,** and lead environmental hygienist **Verne L. Trinoskey.** Principal chemical engineer **George B. Humphreys** has transferred to the department from the company's engineering division.

A new company -- **Avancer Technologies, Inc.** -- has been formed to commericalize a new high integrity container for LLRW and mixed waste. The container is designed to exeeed the current state and NRC draft regs guide for HIC's. The Advancer HIC, which is composed of proprietary composite materials, is also UV resistant for long term above ground storage. Robert S. Watterson, President of Avancer, stated that the Avancer HIC, which is available in all standard sizes, could be a viable alternative to the poly and FRP HIC.

Negotiations are currently being conducted for supply agreements with well known firms in the nuclear waste industry. For further information contact R. S. Watterson at (704) 378-1400.

Last December **LN Technologies** successfully demonstrated their "Quick-Dry"

dewatering equipment to a group of utility representatives. During the demonstration test 250 cubic feet of Exodex resin was transferred to a 182 cu.ft. liner and dewatered over a five-hour period. The equipment is now at the CEI Perry Station. For more information contact Paul Williams at (216) 723-0915.

ON THE MOVE

In an unexpected move, **Mike Jump** resigned his position as Chem-Nuclear's Vice President for Site Development during the past couple of weeks. **Bob Hamilton** also assumed the post of Chem-Nuclear's Vice President for Nuclear Services last December.

Paul Williams, formerly of Stock Equipment company and then a private consultant, has joined **LN Technologies as** Manager of Business Development.**

Calendar

March

1 **RFP RELEASE: Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety will release RFP seeking contractor to identify four potential LLRW disposal sites.**

3 **Hearing: House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee; Chairman Bevill, DOE HLW Appropriations.**

1-5 Conference: Waste Management '87; Spons. University of Arizona, ANS, EPEI, ASME, numerous commercial firms; Tucson, Arizona; Registration Contact: M. Wacks (602) 621-2475.

9 **BIDDERS' CONFERENCE: Firm interested in submitting proposals seeking contract to select four potential LLRW disposal sites in Illinois.**

12 CLOSING DATE: Comments on DOE Utility LLRW Unusual Volume Allocation Authority; Contact: Jeff Smiley (301) 353-4216.

15-18 Annual AIF Fuel Cycle Conference; Boston, MA; Contact: AIF Conference Office (301) 654-9260.

19 **Hearing: House Energy Research Subcommittee; Chair Marilyn Lloyd; HLW Budget; Contact: Lou Ventre (202) 225-6371.**

24 **Meeting: Northeast Compact Commission; Contact: Denise Prace (609) 799-1193.**

29-4/2 International Topical Meeting on Remote Systems and Robotics in Hostile Environments; Pasco, WA; Spons: American Nuclear Society; Contact: J. Berger (509 376-1178.

April

1 DEADLINE: Proposal Seeking LLRW Burial Site Operator Selection, Central States Region.

4 **Hearing: Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee; Chair Sen. Johnston.**

14-16 **Workshop: Packaging, Transportation and Disposal of LLRW; Spons: Chem-Nuclear; Sheraton Charleston, Charleston, SC; Contact: Jan Edmunds-Folk (803) 259-1781.**

22-24 Conference: Sixth Annual Incineration Conference on Incineration of Mixed and LLRW; Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, Illinois; Spons. University of California in cooperation with DOE, IAEA, ASME, and chapters of the Health Physics Society; Contact: Charlotte Baker, LLW Projects Coordinator, University of CA, Irvine, CA 92717. (714) 856-7066. Telex: 7101 115 338.

23 **Meeting: Northwest Compact Committee; Contact Elaine Carlin (206) 459-6244.**

28 **Hearing (Tentative): House Interior Committee, Nuclear Power Reactor Decommissioning; Contact: Sam Fowler (202) 225-8331.**

May

1 **Public Hearing (Tentative): Washington State proposals on Hanford Site users liability requirements; Contact: Elaine Carlin (206) 459-6228.**

3-6 Fourth International Symposium on Environmental Aspects of Stabilization/Solidification of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes; Hotel Tower Place, Atlanta, GA.; Spons: ASTM; Contact: T.M. Gilliam (615) 574-6820.

5-7 Nuclear Power Assembly; Washington, D.C.; Co-Spons: American Nuclear Energy Council, American Nuclear Society, American Public Power Association, Atomic Industrial Forum, Edison Electric Institute, National rural Electric Cooperative Association and the U.S. Committee for Energy Awareness; Contact: AIF (301) 654-9260.

6-8 Annual Conference: The Hazardous Materials Advisory Council; Radisson Mark Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C. Contact: (202) 783-7460.

11-15 Short Course: ASME Short Course on Radioactive Waste Management for Nuclear Power; Old Town Holiday Inn, Alexandria, VA; Contact: Gloria Greene (212) 705-7398.

TBD (Spring 1987) Coordinated Research Program on High-Level Waste Forms; Australia; Spons: IAEA; Contact: W. Porter (202) 252-4573.

LLRW Volume Disposal Update

LLRW ACCEPTED FOR DISPOSAL AT BARNWELL, BEATTY AND HANFORD

Through January 1987

(Volumes in Cubic Feet)

	January
Northeast	
Connecticut	2,174.90
New Jersey	723.20
	2,898.10
Appalachian	
Pennsylvania	8,064.50
West Virginia	0.00
Maryland	0.00
Delaware	0.00
	8,064.50
Southeast	
Georgia	913.00
Florida	12,347.20
Tennessee	8,444.40
Alabama	5,026.50
N. Carolina	6,394.80
S. Carolina	6,858.60
Mississippi	1,766.00
Virginia	2,055.10
	43,805.60
Central States	
Arkansas	0.00
Louisiana	1,552.00
Nebraska	3,359.00
Kansas	622.50
Oklahoma	7,567.50
	13,101.00
Central Midwest	
Illinois	17,830.40
Kentucky	0.00
	17,830.40
Midwest	
Wisconsin	176.00
Indiana	0.00
Iowa	1,351.00
Ohio	998.00
Michigan	919.50
Minnesota	1,262.80
Missouri	728.00
	5,435.30

	January
Rocky Mountain	
Colorado	0.00
Nevada	0.00
New Mexico	0.00
Wyoming	0.00
	0.00
Western III	
South Dakota	0.00
Arizona	0.00
	0.00
Northwest	
Idaho	0.00
Washington	6,458.00
Oregon	8,366.20
Utah	0.00
Alaska	0.00
Hawaii	573.80
Montana	0.00
	15,398.00
Unaligned	
Rhode Island	114.10
Vermont	0.00
New Hampshire	87.00
Maine	0.00
New York	1,880.70
Massachusetts	2,202.80
Texas	0.00
North Dakota	0.00
California	5,973.60
Puerto Rico	0.00
D.C.	0.00
	10,258.20
TOTAL:	**116,791.10**

the HLW Focus of the Radioactive Exchange®

(DOE from pg. 1)
In DOE's view, the "management enhancements" will ensure a single set of criteria and standards for site characterization and evaluation of test results, and a consistent application of such criteria and standards across all three projects.

Another aspect of this initiative will be to centralize decisionmaking of key program and project priorities at Headquarters.

Division of Management Responsibilities

Following the incorporation of the SE&D contractor into the organization, the new division of responsibilities within the HLW program will be as follows:

Headquarters Responsibilities: Management of the overall program including policy guidance, establishing generic technical requirements, managing overall costs and schedules and conducting program-wide institutional interactions; providing centralized management of all efforts leading to an NRC license; and, manage the new systems engineering and development (SE&D) contractor.

Project Office responsibilities: Construction operations and maintenance of the exploratory shaft facilities; conduct site characterization; participate in preparation of environmental reports and other information and data for the EIS and the NRC license application; and, carry out state, Indian tribal and local institutional relations and outreach activities.

SE&D Contractor: Update and management of the site characterization plan; analysis and integration of site characterization data and specification of additional requirements; development and documentation of design and performance assessment models; manage licensing data bases and development of data and analysis specifications to fulfill licensing requirements; conduct waste package and repository design activities, including direction of architect-engineers; and, prepare environmental reports and other information and data for the EIS and the NRC license application.

Two Year Implementation Schedule

According to DOE it will take about 12 months to secure the contractor and two years to achieve full effect of the management changes. DOE says that there will not be major disruptions in existing planning or in the ongoing activities. The revised program schedule outlined in the Amended Mission Plan is intended to provide enough time for a "smooth transition for all parties involved." There are likely to be transfers of functions between current contractors and the new management contractor, but there will be little impact on local or project office staffing.

State, Tribe Involvement in Changes

DOE asserts that states and tribes, along with other affected parties, will be "consulted prior to the establishment of their role vis-a-vis this new management structure." Whether this will amount to simple information dissemination or in carrying out substantive consultation with states, tribes and other parties remains to