

# Center For Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses



*Southwest Research Institute™ is an independent, nonprofit, applied engineering and physical sciences research and development organization with nine technical divisions using multidisciplinary approaches to problem solving. The Institute occupies 1,200 acres and provides nearly two million square feet of laboratories, test facilities, workshops, and offices for more than 2,700 employees who perform contract work for industry and government clients.*

CNWRA was originally established in 1987 as a Federally Funded Research and Development Center sponsored by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to provide resolution of technical and regulatory issues related to a geologic repository for high-level nuclear waste. Evolving from and expanding on its initial mission, CNWRA has developed a unique and powerful range of technical expertise and laboratory facilities for addressing complex earth sciences and engineering problems within a multidisciplinary, integrated framework. CNWRA is a separate business entity of Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in San Antonio, Texas.

Founded in 1947 as a nonprofit research and development organization, SwRI provides a significant research, engineering, and testing resource for industry, small businesses, and government. With nine technical divisions and state-of-the-art laboratories, the Institute uses a multidisciplinary, integrated approach to solving complex and difficult problems in science and applied technology. Patent rights from inventions and technical information resulting from contract research become the client's property.

CNWRA is an internationally recognized center of excellence in the earth sciences and engineering, with a particular strength in the use of systems engineering techniques for multidisciplinary, integrated problem solving. Specific areas of CNWRA expertise include design and evaluation of

environmental and waste management systems, site characterizations and performance assessments, flow and transport modeling, risk and hazard assessments, material sciences and life predictions, evaluations of the technical bases for regulatory compliance, and development of specialized data processing and information management systems. CNWRA has approximately 80 staff members located at the SwRI facilities in San Antonio, Texas, and at a Technical Support Office in Rockville, Maryland. A unique and extensive suite of state-of-the-art laboratories with experimental, analytical, and computing equipment is available to the staff.

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