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U.S. Department of Energy Announces Plans to Compete the Management and Operating Contract for the Yucca Mountain Project

Las Vegas, NV - The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced plans to recompete the management and operating (M&O) contract supporting the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management's (OCRWM) Yucca Mountain Project. The competition reflects DOE's commitment to compete its M&O contracts to ensure the greatest possible benefit to DOE, its mission and this Nation.

"Securing the necessary contractor staff to accomplish our mission is critical to moving the Yucca Mountain Project forward into its next phases," said OCRWM Director Ward Sproat. DOE plans to submit its license application for authorization to construct a permanent geologic repository at Yucca Mountain in Nye County, Nevada, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) this year.

Key activities proposed under this new M&O contract will include:
- providing management expertise and support for the completion of repository design;
- addressing questions or requests for additional information from the NRC following the submittal of the license application and supporting the Department's activities in the subsequent NRC licensing process;
- operating the Yucca Mountain site; and
- providing construction management and integration support.

The current M&O contract was last competed in 2000 resulting in an award in March 2001 to Bechtel SAIC, LLC, a limited liability corporation formed by Bechtel National, Inc., and Science Applications International Corporation. The current contract has been extended through March 2009.

DOE also today released a Request for Information with a draft Statement of Work for this new M&O contract. Additional information can be found on the Contract Recompetition page of the OCRWM website at www.ocrwm.doe.gov. More information on this competition will be posted when available.

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