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DOE quality assurance support contract awarded

On April 27, 2001, the Department of Energy (DOE) awarded the Quality Assurance Technical Support Services (QATSS) contract to Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

The Oak Ridge, Tennessee-based firm will provide technical support services to the Office of Quality Assurance under DOE's Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM). The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, established OCRWM to design and manage a federal system for disposing of the country's high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel.

Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc. will help OCRWM's Office of Quality Assurance ensure that management, policy, training, inspection, and audit controls are in place for Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) verification. OCRWM is responsible for complying with NRC-prescribed quality assurance requirements related to waste isolation, worker safety, and public health.

The QATSS contract award amount is \$15 million for three years. Extension of two one-year options could bring the total contract value to \$25 million.

Dr. Susanna Navarro-Valenti owns and is CEO of Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc. Winner of the Small Business Administration 2001 Excellence Award and a member of the Las Vegas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce since 2000, the company provides technical support services throughout the DOE complex.

Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc. is the technical support services contractor for DOE's Paducah, Kentucky and Portsmouth, Ohio site offices, providing Environmental Safety and Health (ES&H) oversight, environmental management, database management, quality assurance, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance support, and project controls, public relations, and administrative services.

The company also provides technical support, analysis, and evaluation services to DOE's Oak Ridge Operations Emergency Management Program Office in Tennessee.

As of May 14, 2001, the QATSS contract name changed to Navarro Quality Services (NQS).

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