



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201

May 3, 2002
For Immediate Release

Karyn D. Severson
External Affairs

Board Summarizes Activities in 2001

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) has released a report summarizing its major activities from January 1, 2001, to January 31, 2002. *Report to the U.S. Congress and the Secretary of Energy* also discusses issues related to the Board's technical and scientific evaluation of the technical basis of the Department of Energy's (DOE) work related to a Yucca Mountain site recommendation. The Board reviews the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the DOE related to the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

During the period covered by the report, the Board focused on evaluating the technical basis of the DOE's work related to a site recommendation, including the DOE's characterization of the Yucca Mountain site, the DOE's design of the repository and waste package, and the DOE's estimates of how a repository system developed at the site might perform. The Board's review culminated in a January 24, 2002, letter report to Congress and the Secretary of Energy. The major points of that letter and a description of activities undertaken by the Board in developing its evaluation are included in the summary report.

This and other Board reports, correspondence, and information may be downloaded from the Board's Web site at www.nwtrb.gov.

The independent, presidentially-appointed 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 Secretary of Energy, including characterization of the Yucca Mountain site and packaging and transportation of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

#####