Program Priorities and Budget Allocations

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Presented to Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board January 7-8, 1992

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Topics Addressed

- Program priorities and their basis
- Factors that affect progress and budget allocations
- Budget allocation case study: ESF schedule delay
- Basic policy for budget allocations
- Contingency planning

Program Priorities and Their Basis

- Program goals
- Progress milestones
- Management actions to meet goals and milestones
- Important constituency milestones

Program Goals and Their Basis

- Program goals:
 - Begin spent fuel receipt from reactors in 1998
 - Begin disposal in 2010
- Basis for the goals:
 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act, as amended
 - Secretary's plan of November 1989
 - Contracts with the utilities

Program Goals Have Equal Rank



Major Progress Milestones for Spent Fuel Receipt in 1998

- Site MRS facility by the end of 1992
- Start transport cask procurement in 1992
- Establish spent fuel receipt protocols end of 1992
- Complete MRS design in 1994
- Complete transport system design in 1994
- Complete MRS licensing and start construction in 1995

Major Progress Milestones for Start of Disposal in 2010

- Renew surface-based data acquisition in 1991
- Begin ESF construction in November 1992 (now November 1993)
- Evaluate site suitability or unsuitability ASAP
- If found suitable, submit license application in 2001
- Begin repository construction in 2004
- Begin disposal in 2010

Principal Management Actions to Meet Goals and to Establish Major Progress Milestones

Disposal

- Focus and prioritize site interrogation activities to enable site evaluation as soon as possible
- Establish site suitability evaluation baseline
- Establish baseline performance assessment

Principal Management Actions to Meet Goals and to Establish Major Progress Milestones

Storage

- Support Negotiator's efforts to obtain MRS host
- Reorganize transportation program for timely availability of casks and operations system
- Prioritize non-site specific MRS design, environmental, and licensing work
- Prioritize work with utilities on spent fuel receipt protocols

Principal Management Actions to Meet Goals and to Establish Major Progress Milestones

Programmatic

- Prepare Mission Plan Amendment
- Establish strategy for DOE/NRC pre-licensing actions
- Bring on M&O contractor for efficient technical and regulatory program integration and management
- Complete ESAAB review of Yucca Mountain project plans

Major Progress Milestones for Various Program Constituencies

- Start of new site interrogation activities at Yucca Mountain
- Start of underground excavation at Yucca Mountain
- Siting of the MRS facility
- Start of MRS construction
- Evaluation of Yucca Mountain suitability or unsuitability

Major Progress Milestones for Various Program Constituencies (con't.)

- Start of waste acceptance at MRS
- Submittal of repository license application

Underground Excavation is a Uniquely Significant Milestone

- NWTRB, DOE, and NRC agree the ESF provides access to geologic features critical to site evaluation
- Start of underground excavation is highly symbolic of progress for all constituencies
- Extensive DOE/NRC interaction on ESF design and use is required because of interface with potential repository
- Comprehensive funding package is needed to maintain ESF schedule

Apparent Key Factors in Yucca Mountain Site Evaluation

<u>Factor</u> <u>Data Source</u>

Potential fast-paths to environment ESF, drilling

Steep hydraulic gradient Drilling

Volcanism Sample analysis

Seismic/tectonic activity ESF, trenching,

seismicity, mapping

Thermal source impacts ESF, analysis

Undergound excavation is one means to address key factors

Factors That Affect Progress and Budget Allocations

Factors That Could Aid Progress and Goal Achievement

- Sufficient funding
- Clear evidence of suitability or unsuitability
- Expeditious institutional proceedings
- Minimization of licensing review issues through effectiveness in DOE/NRC pre-licensing interactions

Factors That Could Delay Progress of Goal Achievement

- Change in national policy
- Delay in MRS siting
- Political or legal obstruction
- Difficulty in clearly resolving site suitability issues
- Finding that the Yucca Mountain candidate site is not suitable

Factors That Could Delay Progress of Goal Achievement (con't.)

- Difficulty in resolving licensing issues
- Continuing evolution of regulatory requirements
- Insufficient program funding levels

Factors That Affect Budget Strategies and Allocations

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- National policy, the Secretary's goals, and contracts with utilities
- Need to comply with regulatory requirements
- Need to comply with Federal government acquisition requirements
- Need to service interests of oversight functions and affected and interested parties

Factors That Affect Budget Strategies and Allocations (con't.)

- Need to respond to sometimes-conflicting constituent pressures
- Principles of prudent management
- Levels of funding provided
- Competition of waste fund mission with general revenue missions

Budget Allocation Factors in Action: Why Start of ESF Construction Was Delayed

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Initiating factor:

Budget appropriation for fiscal year 1992 was \$30 million less than requested (\$275M vs. \$305M)

Budget Allocation Case Study: ESF Schedule Delay

- Factors considered
 - Start of ESF construction is important progress milestone for constituencies
 - Excavation in Calico Hills formation can provide critical information for site evaluation
 - Siting of MRS and start of spent fuel receipt in 1998 are also critical milestones for some constituencies

Budget Allocation Case Study: ESF Schedule Delay (con't.)

- Through Negotiator's efforts, progress in MRS siting is reaching critical stage
- Drilling and trenching activities can be maintained at low cost rates and contribute significantly to progress toward site evaluation
- Work on data acquisition to meet regulatory requirements must be maintained

Budget Allocation Case Study: ESF Schedule Delay (con't.)

- Effort on other program activities such as waste package must be maintained at least at minimumcritical-mass levels
- ESF design and design-support activities need large block of funds for coherence and continuity
- M&O contractor is in process of ramping up to bring technical and regulatory integration and management to program

Work and Budget Requirements for ESF (\$M)

	Proposed FY92	Current FY92 Allocation
ESF Design	\$20.0	\$ 5.0
Repository (interface control drawings, ESF soil/rock drilling and analysis, systems engineering/PA)	7.5	4.5
Management and control (configuration management, QA, cost/schedule controls)	7.0	4.0
Environmental background monitoring	1.0	1.0
	\$35.5M	\$14.5M

Work and Budget Requirements for ESF (\$M) (con't.)

Additional equipment requirements: (not in Congressionally proposed FY 92 budget)

Design/procurement of ESF support systems

-	Electrical power upgrades	\$10
-	Aggregate plant	2
-	Field operations center facilities	4

Procurement of excavation capability

-	2 large-diameter TBMs	33
-	2 smaller-diameter TBMs	18_

\$67M

Options for Absorbing \$30M Shortfall

- Defer cask procurement
- Slow down ESF design
- Distribute among activities with discretionary budgets
 - Reduce MRS siting support
 - Slow MRS design
 - Slow or stop surface-based site evaluation activities
 - Slow waste package
 - Slow regulatory framework development
 - Slow M&O ramp up

Decisions Taken

- Retain minimal funding needed for storage and transportation activities progress toward 1998 waste acceptance goal
- Defer ESF-related procurements but retain site preparation design activities in order to hold schedule delay to one year, assuming future appropriations meet needs
- Take small cuts in activities with discretionary budgets but do not lose minimum sustaining level of effort needed

Rationale for Decisions

- Must maintain 1998 goal for start of receipt
- Any cuts in storage and transportation would have irreparable effects
 - Impossible to meet goal to begin spent fuel receipt in 1998
 - Loss of faith in DOE on part of prospective MRS hosts
 - High potential for lawsuits from utilities for anticipatory breach of contract

Rationale for Decisions (con't.)

 Potential that delay of schedule for start of ESF construction can be made up in terms of overall site suitability evaluation by highly-definitive findings after excavation is begun

Potential Offsets for Delay in Start of ESF Portal

- ESF design and basis for data acquisition strategy have improved since original schedule was set
 - Ramp rather than shaft will get data sooner and with broader range
 - Excavation strategy now on critical target of potential for fast paths for flow to the environment

Potential Offsets for Delay in Start of ESF Portal (con't.)

- Data needed to support decisions may be less than previously expected
 - Now focused on critical issues, with extensive performance assessment of uncertainties and sensitivities
 - Strategy to close individual issues ASAP and to use annotated outline to define issues and data needs can improve progress efficiency

Basic Policy for Budget Allocations

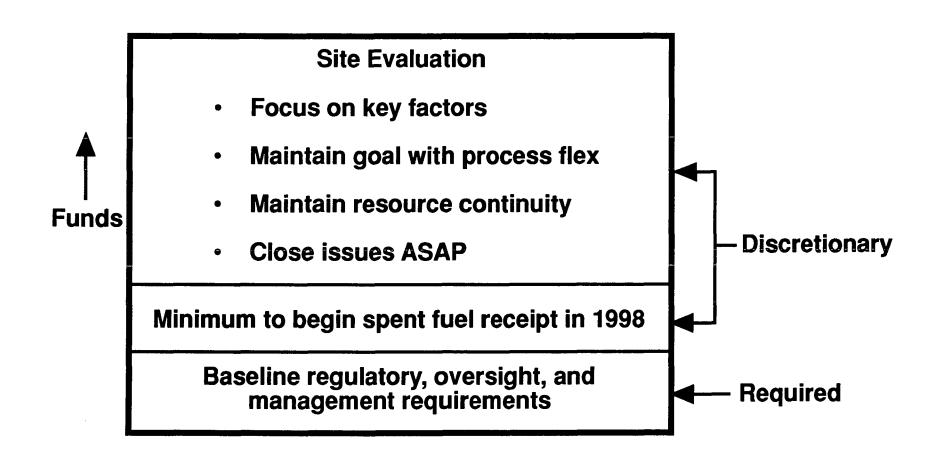
Basic Policy for Budget Allocations

- Maximize potential to meet program goals
- Fund all effort which must be sustained to meet regulatory requirements
- When faced with shortfalls in appropriations needed to maintain schedules for progress milestones and program goals:

Basic Policy for Budget Allocations (con't.)

- Avoid loss of continuity of activities and resources
- Reduce funding of activities for which there is potential for schedule recovery in the future
- Match M&O ramp up and activity levels to program status resulting from budget levels.

Budget Allocation Policy Focuses on Meeting Goals and Requirements as Effectively as Possible

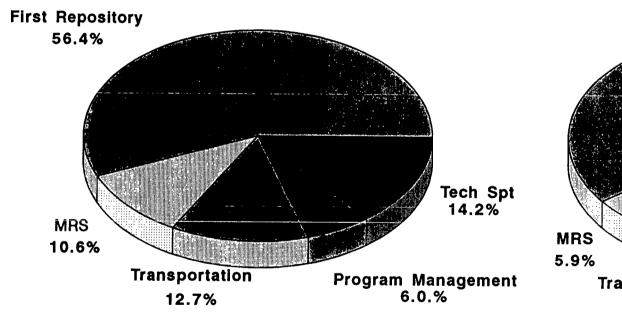


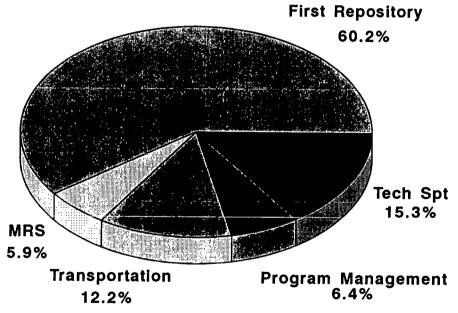
Contingency Planning

Contingency Planning

- Continuing process at strategic and tactical levels
- Not a public process
- Major strategic topics addressed:
 - Delayed Yucca Mountain access (now budgetdelayed progress)
 - Delayed MRS siting
 - Unsuitability of Yucca Mountain candidate site
- Interactive with Department's strategic planning requirements

Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Nuclear Waste Fund





FY 1992 Request \$305.1M

FY 1992 Enacted \$275.1M