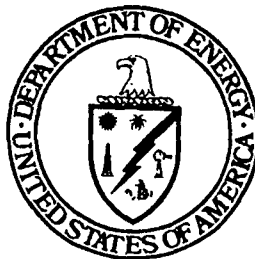


UPDATE ON OCRWM PROPOSED PROGRAM APPROACH

Samuel Rousso

**Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy**



Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board

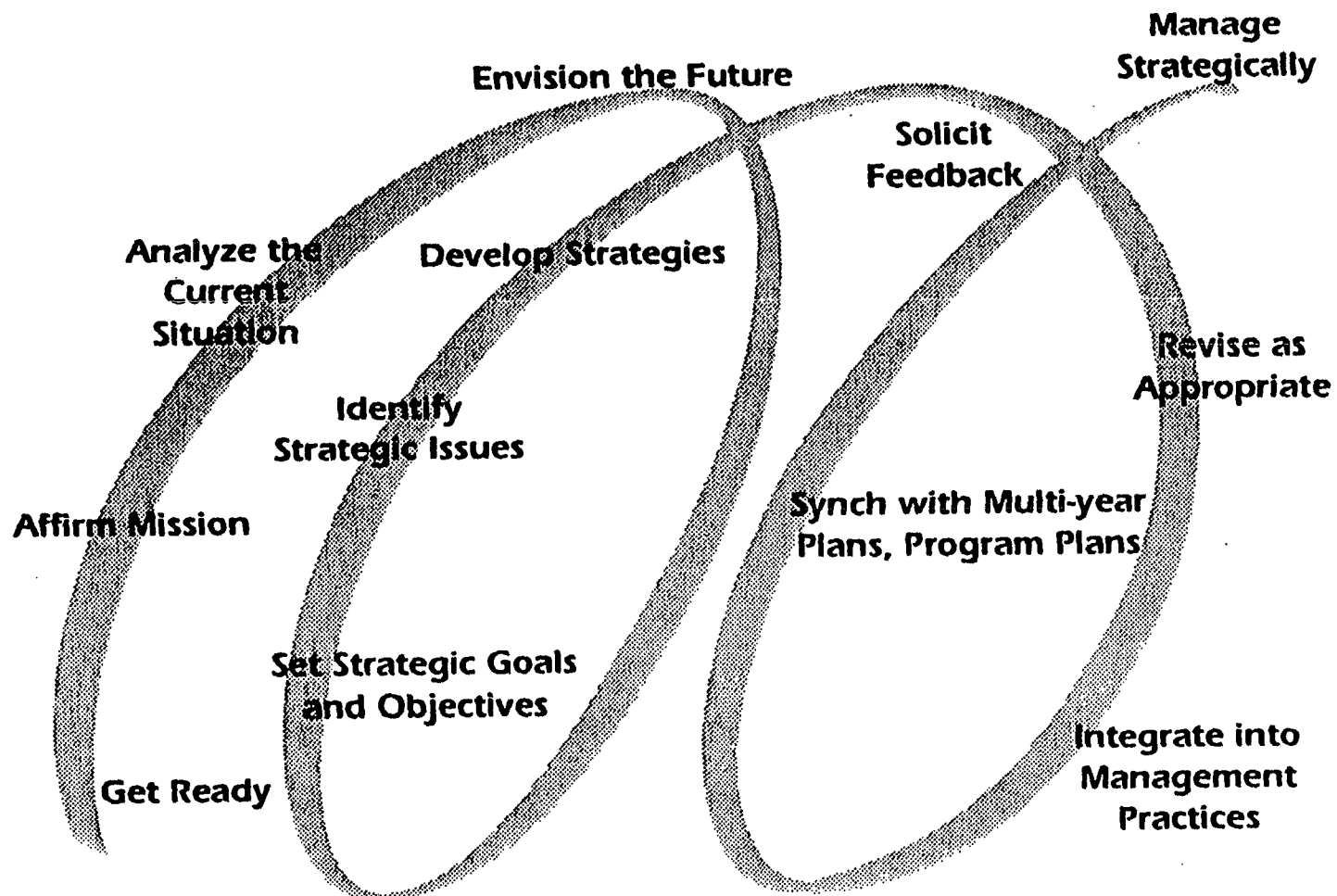
July 12, 1994

Denver, Colorado



Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

The Journey





DOE Objectives Lead to OCRWM Goals

3.c. The United States will have a licensed and operating repository as part of a radioactive waste management system for commercial spent fuel and defense high-level waste.

DOE OBJECTIVES/ENERGY RESOURCES

We will lead the Nation to the achievement of environmentally sound disposal of high-level radioactive waste, that will serve this and future generations. We will conduct the program in a collaborative manner with integrity, openness, technical excellence and responsiveness to social considerations.

OCRWM VISION

Our mission is to manage and dispose of the Nation's spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. We will provide leadership in developing and implementing strategies that assure public and worker health and safety, protect the environment, merit public confidence, and are economically viable.

OCRWM MISSION

OCRWM GOALS



OCRWM Strategic Goals

- Goal 1: Lead the collaborative development and implementation of National policy for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste**
- Goal 2: Participate actively in key deliberations which affect disposal of Department of Energy nuclear materials**
- Goal 3: Strengthen fiscal and Program Management practices**
- Goal 4: Enhance effective use of human resources**



OCRWM Strategic Goals (Cont'd)

Goal 5: Resolve the 1998 Waste Acceptance expectation issue

Goal 6: Provide for interim storage, timely waste acceptance and transportation of spent fuel compatible with disposal

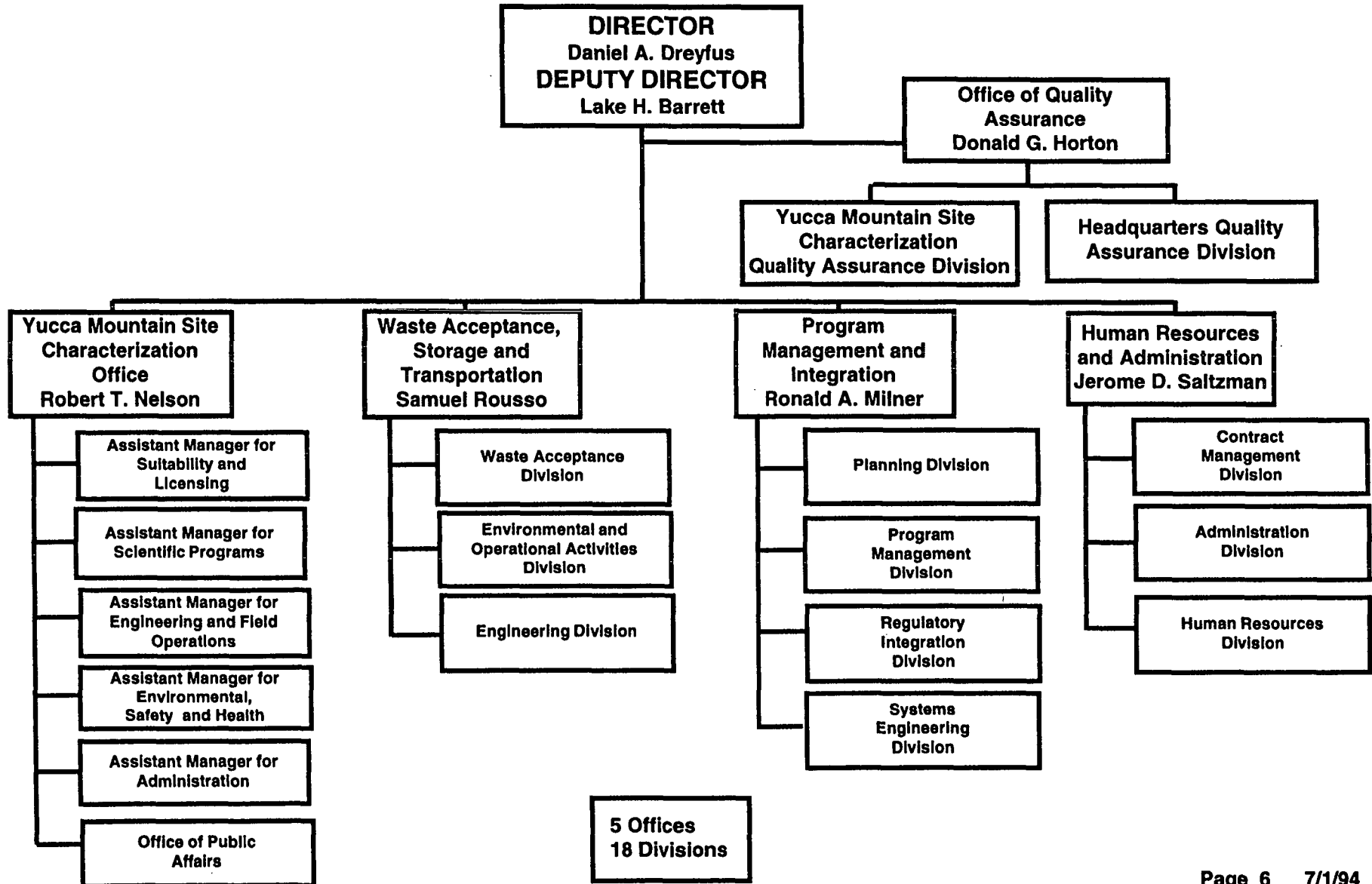
Goal 7: Determine site suitability for Yucca Mountain

Goal 8: Provide for timely waste emplacement in a disposal facility



Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

Headquarters Reorganization





Overview of Proposed Program Approach

- **Re-structured program consistent with Administration Funding Proposal for FY95 and beyond**
- **Developed to ensure that:**
 - **Realities of near-term management of spent fuel are addressed**
 - **Efficient, rapid progress is made toward determining suitability of Yucca Mountain, and, if suitable, proceeding with EIS and LA**



Overview of Proposed Program Approach (Cont'd)

- Technical approach and schedules are realistic and consistent with:**
 - » increased funding levels**
 - » expectations of stakeholders**
- Requires no changes to NWPA**
 - Anticipates new EPA standard specifically for Yucca Mountain**
 - May require modification to standard contract**
 - » MPC as acceptable waste form**

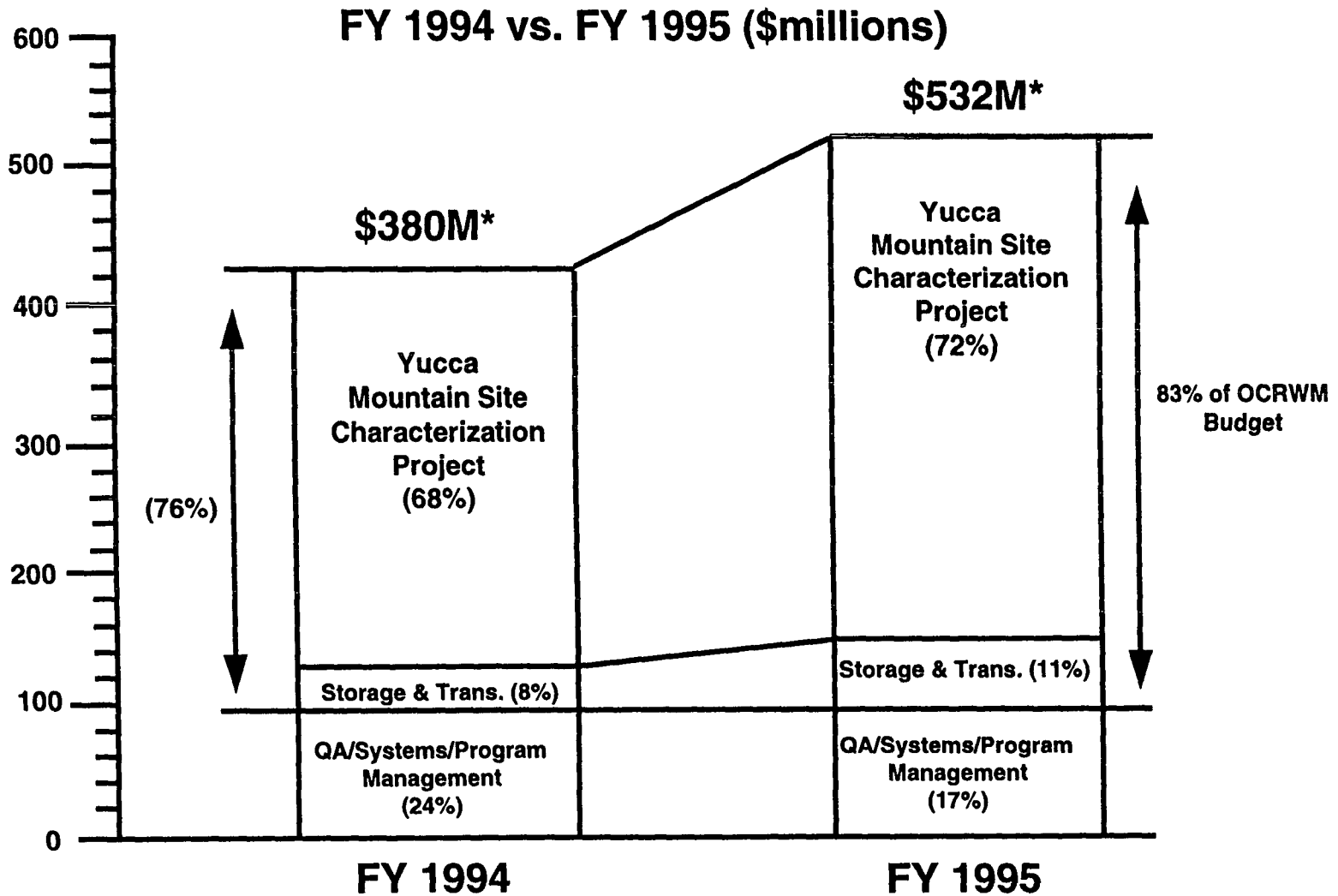


Overview of Proposed Program Approach (Cont'd)

- **Met with State, Tribal, local governments; industry groups and trade associations; regulatory agencies; professional societies; environmental organizations; and labor organizations**
- **Culminated in Stakeholder's meeting May 21, 1994**



Budget Distribution Comparison



*Does not include civilian research and development budget (\$0.7 Million)



Key Components

- **Initiation of Public dialogue, Notice of Inquiry (NOI) published May 25, 1994**
 - **Addresses waste acceptance issue**
 - **Definition of DOE's role in near-term management of spent fuel**
 - **Responses due September 22, 1994 (120 days)**



Key Components (Cont'd)

- **Development of Multi-Purpose Canister**
- **Site characterization activities focused on DOE suitability decision**



Major Differences from Previous Approach

- **MRS design funding not requested until host site identified**
- **Addition of MPC development**
- **Emphasis on activities needed to allow technical site suitability determination of Yucca Mountain in 1998**
- **Repository designed to permit waste retrieval for up to 100 years**



Key Program Milestones

- **Begin underground exploration** **1994**
- **Begin dialog to resolve waste acceptance/interim storage issue** **1994**
- **Begin NEPA Process**
 - **MPC** **1994**
 - **Repository** **1995**
- **Complete MPC design** **1996**



Key Program Milestones (Cont'd)

- **MPC certification for Storage and Transportation** **1997**
- **Determine Yucca Mountain Technical Site Suitability** **1998**
- **First MPC's available to utilities** **1998**
- **Submit YM Site Recommendation Report (if site is found suitable)** **2000**



Key Program Milestones (Cont'd)

- **Submit repository License** **2001**
Application (if site recommendation is approved)
- **Begin repository operations** **2010**



Multi-Purpose Canister

- **Provides standardization and flexibility**
- **Reduced bare fuel assembly handlings**
- **Compatibility with storage at reactor sites or Federal facility**
- **Plan to have available to utilities in 1998**
- **DOE title transfer upon removal from utility sites**



Transportation

- **Development of MPC transportation casks**
- **Continue development of high-capacity legal weight truck casks (GA-4/9)**
- **Continue, through iterative public process, development of strategy for transportation issues**



Repository Site Characterization and Site Recommendation

- **Initial focus of activities to support technical site suitability determination**
- **If site is found suitable and approved by Congress, then proceed incrementally through license application and closure**
- **Provide compliance with NEPA regulations**
- **Design to permit retrieval for up to 100 years**



Conclusions

- **OCRWM is developing a Proposed Program Approach which is consistent with the Administration Funding Proposal**
- **The Proposed Program Approach addresses the key issues which OCRWM currently faces**



Conclusions (Cont'd)

- **Stakeholder involvement has been and will continue to be sought as the Proposed Program Approach evolves**
- **OCRWM is positioning to execute the Proposed Program Approach**