

Storage of Vitrified High Level Waste

Citizens Advisory Board
Waste Management Committee

May 5, 2009

Presentation By
Jean Ridley, P.E.

Sludge Processing Team Lead
Assistant Manager for Waste Disposition Projects
Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office



Purpose & Acronyms

- Provide information on the interim storage of vitrified high level waste at the Savannah River Site.
- Acronyms –
 - GWSB Glass Waste Storage Building
 - SCT Shielded Canister Transporter
 - HLW High Level Waste
 - SR Savannah River Operations Office
 - SRR Savannah River Remediation, LLC
 - PC Performance Category



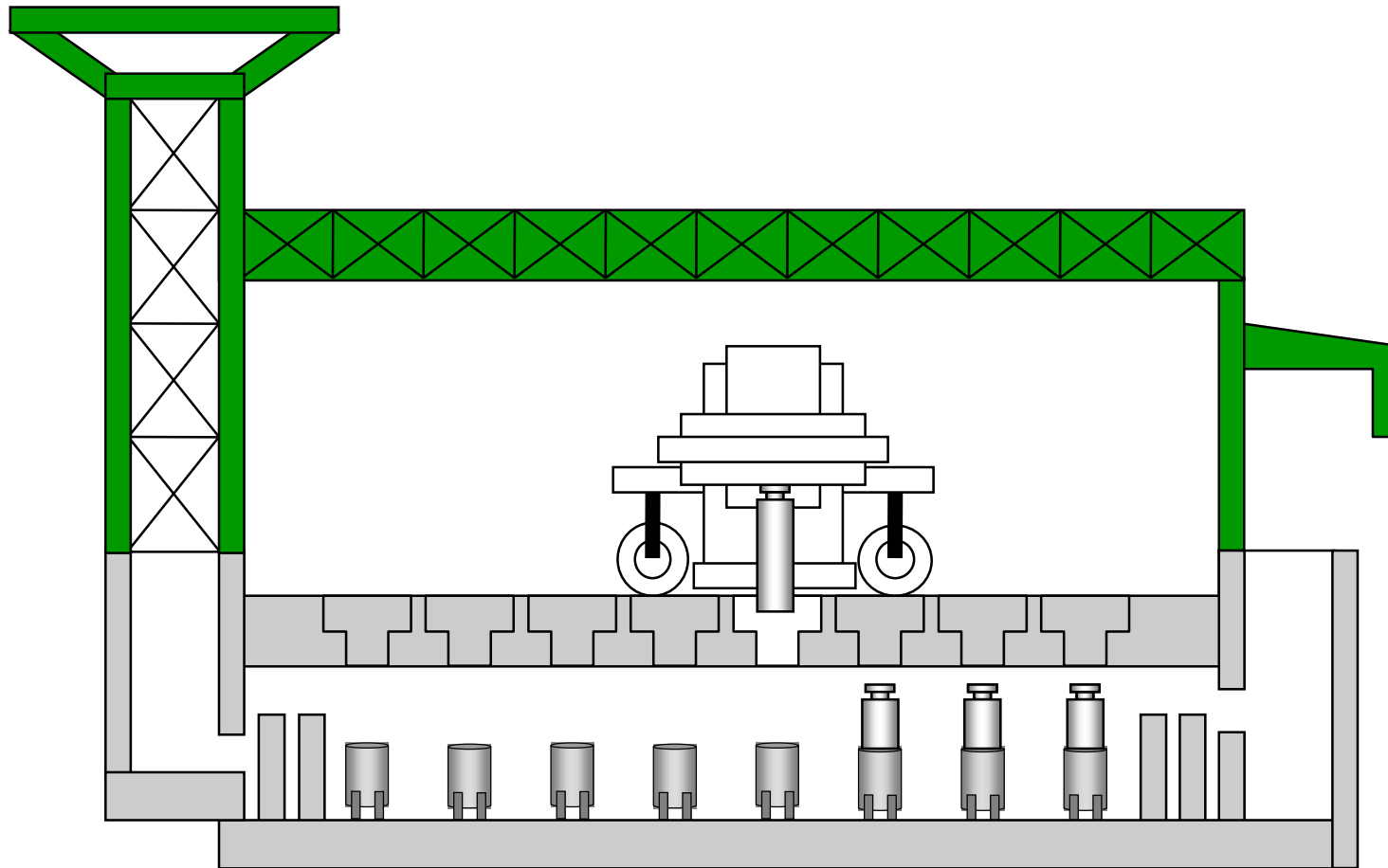
Impacts of Yucca Mountain Delay

NO IMPACT to SR operations/storage

- SR will continue to produce canisters in accordance with requirements.
- SR will continue to **interim** store vitrified HLW in the GWSBs until a geologic repository is available or the policy is revised.



Glass Waste Storage Building



Glass Waste Storage Buildings

- Currently two GWSBs
 - Vault – PC- 2
 - Metal bldg – PC-1
- Ventilation –
 - GWSB #1 – forced and passive
 - GWSB #2 – passive only
- Capacity:
 - GWSB #1 – 2,253 available positions
 - GWSB #2 – 2,340 positions
- Design Life – 50 years
- Estimated Useful Life – 100 years
- GWSB #3 – planned for 2020



Funding

- Funding through PBS-14 Liquid Radioactive Waste Management
- New Liquid Waste Contract – SRR
 - Will establish new baseline in 6-8 months
 - Proposal costs lower than projected in Request for Proposal
- GWSB #3 – projected Line Item



Canister Design



- Vitrified waste form – best available technology to stabilize high radio-active liquid waste.
- Canister made of 304L stainless steel – 3/8” thick.
- Life expectancy estimated ~1000 years.
- Canisters do not breach on drop test of over 7 meters.



Summary

- The GWSBs and the vitrified high level waste canisters are of robust design.
- Safe interim storage will continue until such time as a geologic repository becomes available.

