



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



# An Update on Yucca Mountain Activities

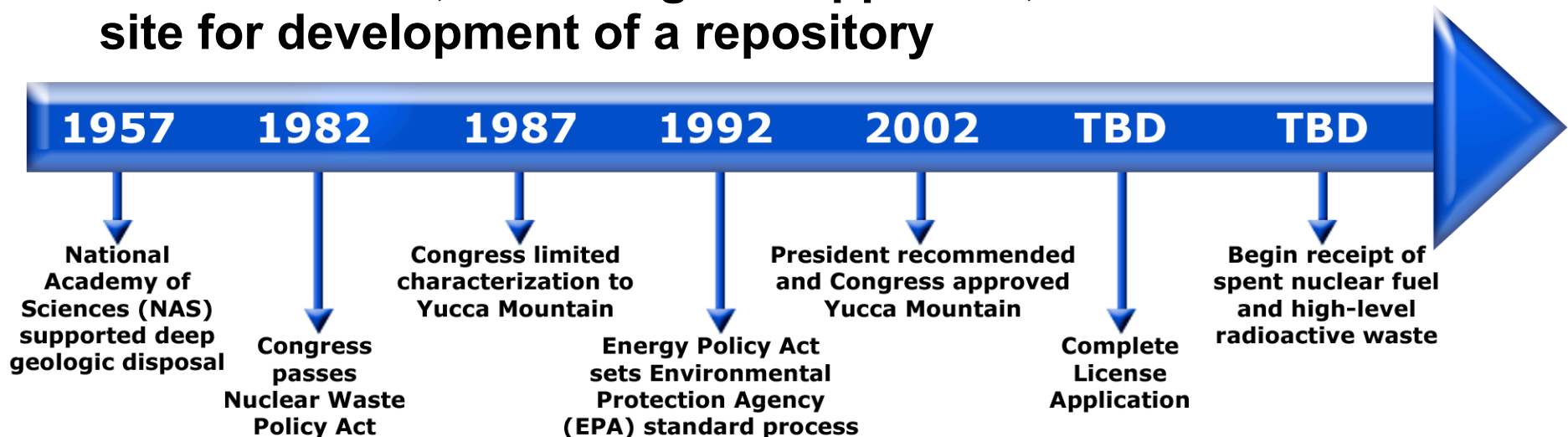
Presented to:  
**Community Environmental Monitoring Program**

Presented by:  
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**Office of the Chief Engineer**

**July 24, 2006**  
**Mt. Charleston, NV**

# Congress Created a Legal Obligation to Dispose of Nuclear Waste

- **1982 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA)** established the national policy for the disposal of commercial spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste
- **1987 - Congress** directed DOE to characterize only the Yucca Mountain site
- **2002 - The Secretary of Energy and the President** recommended, and Congress approved, the Yucca Mountain site for development of a repository

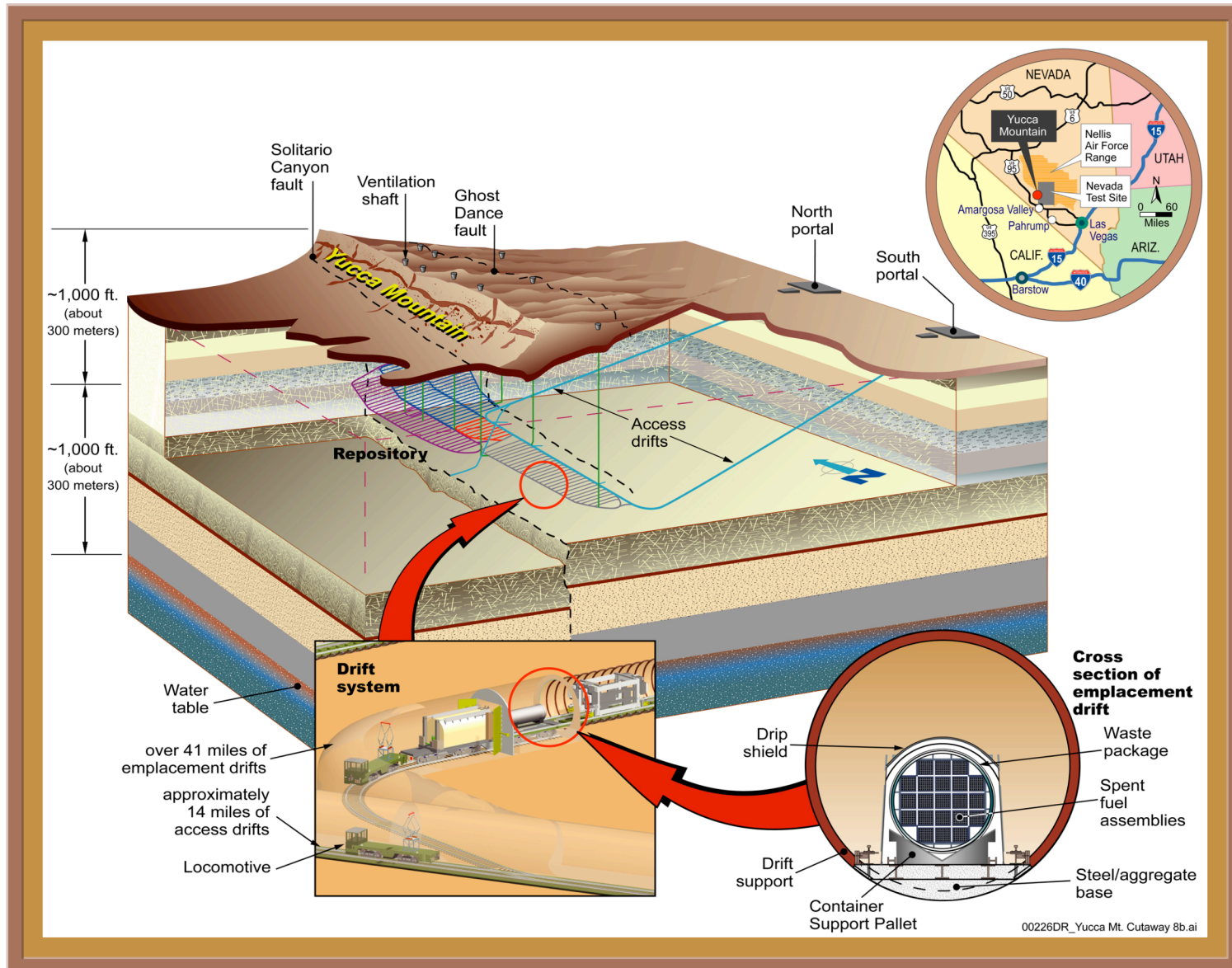


# Clean Canistered Approach

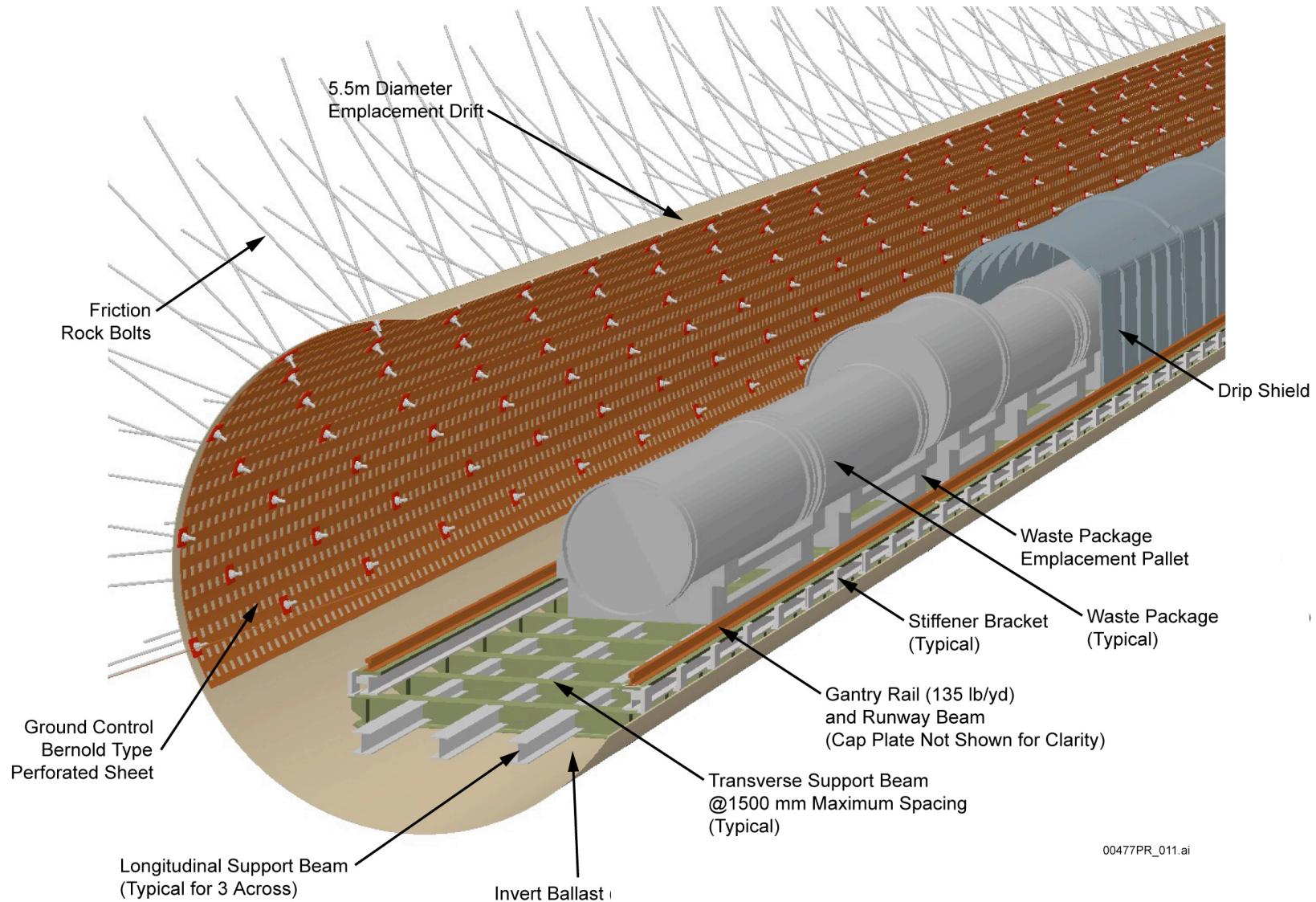
- **On October 25, 2005, the DOE announced a new plan that would operate the Civilian Radioactive Waste System with a canister based approach that minimizes bare fuel handling**
  - **Spent nuclear fuel (SNF) generally would be sent to the repository in a standardized Transportation, Aging and Disposal (TAD) canister**
  - **Only 5 to 10 percent of fuel received would require bare fuel handling**
  - **SNF would not require repetitive handling prior to disposal**
  - **Canisters would require less handling than individual SNF assemblies**



# Repository Reference Design Concept



# Emplacement Drift



# Three DOE Information Centers in Nevada



Grand opening on July 27, 2006

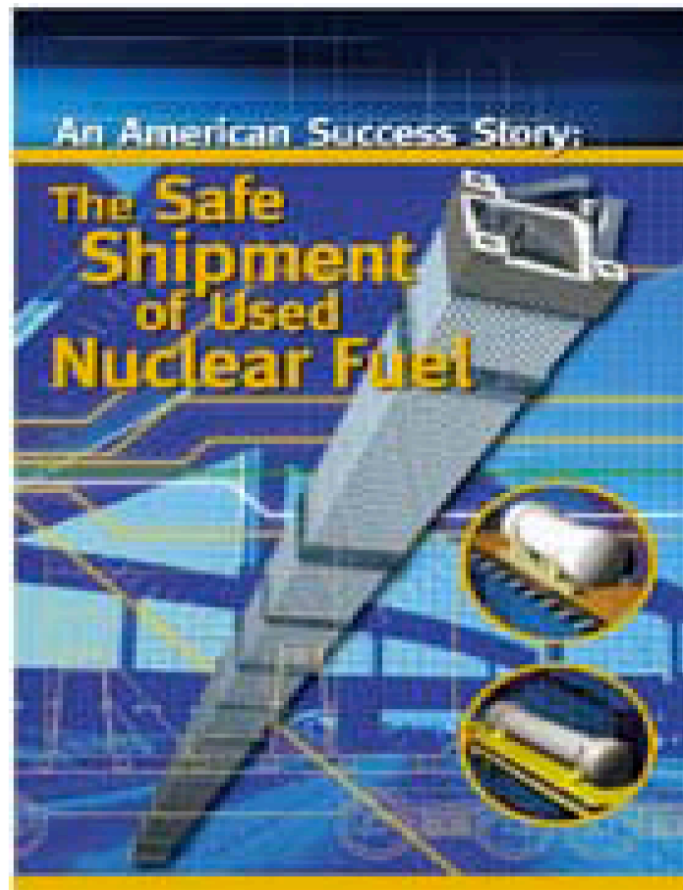
- The exhibits, video displays, and interactive computer programs at the Yucca Mountain Information Centers are designed to help explain why and how scientists and engineers are studying Yucca Mountain
- All centers have access to the OCRWM website: [www.ocrwm.doe.gov](http://www.ocrwm.doe.gov)



Yucca Mountain Project Toll-free Information Line:  
**[1-800-225-6972](tel:1-800-225-6972)**



# Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Video The Safe Shipment of Used Nuclear Fuel



# Questions?

