BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

Yucca Mountain to Restart

In the next few weeks it is anticipated that DOE will officially announce the restart of the Yucca Mountain Project – licensing the facility as a permanent storage facility for used nuclear fuel. AFS will need to supply an estimated 350 engineers to this project. If you are interested in a position, contact Todd Heavern.

Over 30 years ago congress passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act to formalize our nation's nuclear waste management policy that led the DOE and its national laboratories to investigate the nation's first subsurface High Level Waste repository in Yucca Mountain, located about 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas in Nevada's Nye County. Over $15B has been invested in the site that most recently resulted in the NRC staff issuing a five-volume Safety Evaluation Report in January 2015.

In 2008, as part of the USA Repository Services LLC team, AFS was awarded the five-year $2.6B DOE Management and Operation (M&O) contract for Yucca Mountain. In 2009 the DOE commenced project shutdown activities that concluded in 2010. However, through contract extensions, AFS remains under contract to support USA Repository Services. The House Energy and Commerce committee has also urged DOE Secretary Rick Perry to restart the project. President Trump's proposed 2018 budget includes up to $120M in funding to restart the Yucca Mountain Project.

AFS is working with the AECOM and CB&I team to propose near term scoping studies in preparation for potential full restart of the project. Near term scopes include necessary site reconnaissance and infrastructure upgrades, and preparations for commencement of hearings to adjudicate several hundred contentions filed as part of the licensing process. Subsequent scopes may include engineering and construction that will require engineering staff.