

Biographical Information for Margaret S.Y. Chu

Margaret Chu is currently the Director of Nuclear Waste Management Program at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM. She leads and manages about 160 professional staff conducting research and development in providing integrated solutions to complex, global nuclear waste management problems. Major programs include the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Yucca Mountain Project, Hanford Tanks project, and various international repository programs (Japan, Korea, Sweden, Germany, and Switzerland). She has over 19 years of experience in waste management. She has extensive experience in risk assessment, performance assessment and decision analysis as applied to the disposal and management of nuclear waste and environmental remediation. Her most unique strength is her ability in recognizing external trends, and in analyzing assessing and developing solutions for large, complicated problems that involve technical, political, and regulatory issues. She has contributed significantly in the successful certification of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) and the development of various disposal regulations in the U.S.

Margaret joined Sandia in 1980 as a member of the technical staff. She was awarded the title of “Distinguished Member of Technical Staff” in 1986 – the first woman receiving this honor at Sandia. She was promoted to a technical manager in 1991, a senior manager in 1997, and a director in 1998.