

THE UNDERGROUND RESEARCH LABORATORY STATUS REPORT
1985 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30

COMPILED AND EDITED BY
G.R. Simmons and J. Tamm

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS
C.C. Davison, R.A. Everitt, A.L. Holloway, G.W. Kuzyk, P.A. Lang,
A.E. Lemire, D.A. Peters, G.R. Simmons, N.M. Soonawala and O.T. Vik

ABSTRACT

A major objective of the Canadian nuclear program is the safe management of used fuel waste, to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effects on man or the environment. The Canadian Nuclear Fuel Waste Management Program was established to assess the concept that the disposal of radioactive waste in deep, stable geological formations will achieve this objective and, if the concept is proven, to establish the capability for disposing of this waste safely.

The geoscientific portion of this research and development program includes activities related to hydrogeology, geophysics, geology, rock properties and geomechanics. Research in these areas of the program is directed towards evaluating plutonic rock bodies, defining the undisturbed hydrogeology and rock-mass characteristics, and predicting long-term changes in these characteristics due to construction, loading of the nuclear waste and closure of an underground vault. A suitably located underground research laboratory is being constructed as an integral part of this research.

This document is one in a series of status reports being issued to provide current information on the underground research laboratory program. Additional information on the Underground Research Laboratory can be obtained from Public Affairs and Information Services (telephone number 204-753-2311).