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Dr. Swift has worked on geologic disposal of radioactive waste since 1989. He worked on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant project from 1989 to 1998, where he had a lead role in preparing the postclosure science portion of DOE's 1996 Compliance Certification Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has worked on the Yucca Mountain Project since 1998, managing the total system performance assessment team from 2000 to 2006 and serving as the Yucca Mountain Lead Laboratory's Chief Scientist from 2006 to the present. He is currently the Deputy National Technical Director of the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy's Used Fuel Disposition Campaign, helping define and direct R&D programs evaluating alternatives for storage and disposal of used nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

Dr. Swift has a Ph.D. in Geosciences from the University of Arizona, M.S. and B.S. degrees in Geology from the University of Wyoming, and a B.A. in English from Yale University. In addition to his experience in radioactive waste management, he has worked in mineral exploration and oil and gas exploration.