



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 16, 2000

Mr. Alan B. Brownstein, Division Director
Office of Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff Review Of Revision 9 Of The Office
Of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Quality Assurance Requirements
and Description

Dear Mr. Brownstein:

In response to your letter dated December 22, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed the changes identified in Revision 9 of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) Quality Assurance Requirements and Description (QARD), DOE/RW-0333P, document. The QARD was reviewed in accordance with the NRC Review Plan for High-Level Waste Repository Quality Assurance Program Descriptions (Review Plan), Revision 2, dated March 1989.

The Review Plan is the basis for reviewing and determining the acceptability of quality assurance (QA) program documents, which are prepared by the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the DOE program participants (e.g., Quality Assurance Requirements Document (QARD), Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPDs) and participant Quality Assurance Program Plans). The Review Plan also invokes, with exceptions, NQA-1, "Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Nuclear Facilities - 1986," and contains additional review guidance.

As a result of the review, the changes incorporated into Revision 9 of the QARD document are acceptable, and the QARD is considered adequate for controlling DOE's present work activities. However, we would like to point out that certain sections of the QARD document will have to be modified in order for the QARD to be applied to design, construction and preclosure activities. These modifications include changes to sections controlling activities such as graded quality assurance, commercial grade item dedication, records and storage of records using electronic media, and audits.

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If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this review, please contact Ted Carter at (301) 415-6684 or Larry Campbell at (301) 415-5000.

Sincerely,

[[Original signed by:]]

C. William Reamer, Chief
High-Level Waste and Performance
Assessment Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: See List

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High-Level Waste and Performance
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Letter to A. Brownstein from C.W. Reamer dated: February 16, 2000

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