



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

OCT 14 1988

Mr. John J. Linehan, Acting Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

Enclosed with this letter is a controlled copy of Study Plan 8.3.1.14.2, prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Yucca Mountain site. The study plan number corresponds to the investigation number used in the Site Characterization Plan (SCP) for the Yucca Mountain site. The study plan is identified as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>
8.3.1.14.2	"Studies to Provide Soil and Rock Properties for Potential Locations of Surface Facilities and Subsurface Access Facilities"

DOE has reviewed this study plan for consistency with the content requirements for study plans, as given in Attachment B to the Summary of the DOE/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) meeting on the Level-of-Detail for the SCP (May 7-8, 1986). DOE is submitting this plan to the NRC as agreed to in the meeting.

The DOE has given this study plan a high priority since data collected for this study will be used as input for Title II design of the Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF). The completion of this study is currently on critical path for completion of ESF Title II design. Although the NRC's review plan for SCP study plans provides for a three-month phase 1 review (start work review), we request that the NRC please expedite its review of this plan. This would facilitate the timely collection of data for use in the ESF Title II design process.

As discussed during the DOE/NRC meeting (December 15, 1988) on study plans, DOE has decided to control preparation and review of study plans as a quality activity. This study plan was reviewed under current Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) and DOE Headquarters quality assurance (QA) procedures.

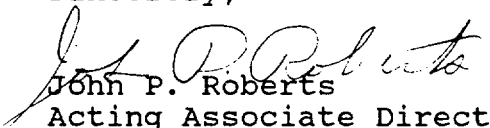
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Study plans prepared under current procedures do not require detailed information on QA requirements. To satisfy the May 7-8, 1986, agreement to provide specific QA requirements, current study plans indicate that applicable QA criteria will be specified in YMPO QA grading reports, which are issued as separate controlled documents.

It should also be noted that there may be some inconsistencies in the milestone report titles and schedules given in this study plan and those in the SCP. Study plans, in general, represent a further evolution of the study in the areas related to schedules and milestones in the SCP, and, as such, represent DOE's current plans.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Skuchko of my office at (202) 586-4590.

Sincerely,


John P. Roberts
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure: *Ruon Shelf*
Study Plan 8.3.1.14.2, "Studies to Provide Soil and Rock Properties for Potential Locations of Surface Facilities and Subsurface Access Facilities"

cc w/Enclosure:
Arturo Ramose, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX

cc w/o Enclosure:
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K. Whipple, Lincoln County, NV
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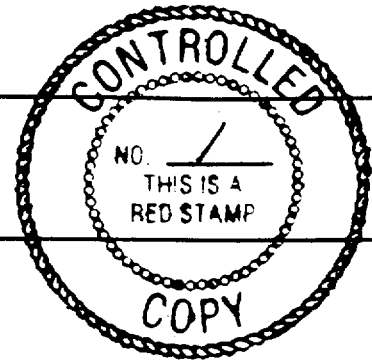
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**Study Plan for
Investigation 8.3.1.14.2**



Studies to Provide Soil and Rock Properties of Potential Locations of Surface and Subsurface Access Facilities

Revision 0

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Washington, DC 20585

**Prepared by
United States Geological Survey**