



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2000

Mr. William H. Lake
Waste Acceptance and
Transportation Division
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE
CENTRALIZED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY

Dear Mr. Lake:

By letter dated May 1, 1997, as supplemented, the Department of Energy (DOE) submitted the Centralized Interim Storage Facility (CISF) Topical Safety Analysis Report (TSAR) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and requested that the NRC staff evaluate the TSAR and issue a Safety Evaluation Report (SER) that could be used and referenced by an applicant seeking a site-specific license for construction and operation of the CISF. The scope of the NRC's review was limited to the information provided in the TSAR, the DOE responses to the NRC's requests for additional information, and the references cited. Due to the inherent limitation of the TSAR, the NRC staff decided to issue an Assessment Report (AR, preliminary copy for review enclosed) instead of an SER. Because the TSAR is not site-specific and is lacking certain specific detailed information, a complete review addressing all of the pertinent NRC regulations is not possible. Additional information that must be included in a site-specific Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for the CISF is identified in the AR. The AR has been formatted according to the Standard Review Plan for Dry Spent Fuel Storage Facilities, NUREG-1567.

DOE is requested to respond with any inaccuracies and/or omissions by close of business on January 19, 2001. In addition to the formal transmittal of comments, please email a copy to me at AGH@NRC.GOV. Please contact me at (301) 415-1390 if you have questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allen G. Hansen, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-21
TAC No. L22327

Enclosure: Assessment Report

January 4, 2000

Mr. William H. Lake
Waste Acceptance and
Transportation Division
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE
CENTRALIZED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY

Dear Mr. Lake:

By letter dated May 1, 1997, as supplemented, the Department of Energy (DOE) submitted the Centralized Interim Storage Facility (CISF) Topical Safety Analysis Report (TSAR) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and requested that the NRC staff evaluate the TSAR and issue a Safety Evaluation Report (SER) that could be used and referenced by an applicant seeking a site-specific license for construction and operation of the CISF. The scope of the NRC's review was limited to the information provided in the TSAR, the DOE responses to the NRC's requests for additional information, and the references cited. Due to the inherent limitation of the TSAR, the NRC staff decided to issue an Assessment Report (AR, preliminary copy for review enclosed) instead of an SER. Because the TSAR is not site-specific and is lacking certain specific detailed information, a complete review addressing all of the pertinent NRC regulations is not possible. Additional information that must be included in a site-specific Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for the CISF is identified in the AR. The AR has been formatted according to the Standard Review Plan for Dry Spent Fuel Storage Facilities, NUREG-1567.

DOE is requested to respond with any inaccuracies and/or omissions by close of business on January 19, 2001. In addition to the formal transmittal of comments, please email a copy to me at AGH@NRC.GOV. Please contact me at (301) 415-1390 if you have questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

(Original Signed by:)

Allen G. Hansen, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-21
TAC No. L22327

Enclosure: Assessment Report

Distribution: w/o encl*

Docket NRC File Center PUBLIC NMSS r/f* SFPO r/f* EEaston*
WHodges* AChowdhury, CNWRA* JGuttman*

C:\LtrARdraftCISFtransmittal.wpd

"C"=Without attachment/enclosure "E"=With attachment/enclosure "N"=No copy **ML010040505**

OFC	SFPO	C	SFPO	E	SFPO	C						
NAME	AHansen		VLTharpe		SBaggett							
DATE	1/4/01		1/4/01		1/4/01							

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY