



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

SEP 26 1991

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Associate Director
for Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U. S. Department of Energy, RW 30
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: OBSERVATION AUDIT OF RAYTHEON SERVICES NEVADA

I am transmitting the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Observation Audit Report No. 91-11 for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) Quality Assurance (QA) Audit No. YMP-91-04 of Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN) conducted at Las Vegas, Nevada from July 29 - August 1, 1991. The NRC staff evaluated the DOE/YMPO QA audit to gain confidence that DOE and RSN are properly implementing the requirements of their QA programs. The NRC staff based its evaluation of the DOE/YMPO audit process and the RSN QA program on direct observations of the auditors, discussions with the audit team and RSN personnel, and reviews of the pertinent audit information (e.g., audit plan, checklists, and RSN documents).

The NRC staff has determined that DOE/YMPO QA Audit No. YMP-91-04 was useful and effective. The audit was well organized and conducted in a thorough and professional manner with minimal logistic delays. The audit team was well qualified in the QA discipline, and their assignments and checklist items were adequately described in the audit plan. The audit team did not include any technical specialists. Some technical areas were audited for compliance to procedural controls (i.e., computer software), but no evaluation was made of the technical adequacy of work products.

The NRC staff agrees with the preliminary DOE/YMPO audit team findings that the RSN QA program has adequate procedural controls in place, and that program implementation is adequate in eight of the thirteen areas audited. The other five areas were considered indeterminate due to a lack of quality affecting activities being conducted in these areas.

DOE should monitor the RSN program to ensure that the seven preliminary deficiencies identified during this audit are corrected in a timely manner and future implementation is carried out in an effective manner. The NRC staff expects to participate in this monitoring as observers and may perform its own independent audits at a later date to assess the RSN QA program.

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Mr. Dwight E. Shelor

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A written response to this letter or the enclosed report is not required. If you have any questions, please call Jim Conway on (301)/FTS 492-0453.

Sincerely,

(Original Signed by)

for Joseph J. Holonich

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

Enclosure: As stated

- cc: C. Gertz, DOE/OCRWM
- R. Loux, State of Nevada
- S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
- P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
- C. Thistlethwaite, Inyo County, CA
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
- D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
- D. Weigel, GAO
- V. Poe, Mineral County, NV
- D. Sperry, White Pine County, NV

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