

KH/ACCP RAYTHEON

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JAN 27 1992

Mr. John P. Roberts, Acting 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. Roberts:

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF RAYTHEON SERVICES NEVADA (RSN) QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) PROGRAM

This letter responds to the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) letter of August 1, 1991, to John Linehan which requests U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) acceptance of the Raytheon Services Nevada (RSN) QA program for implementation of new site characterization activities and other quality-related activities for the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project.

The August 1, 1991 OCRWM letter states that the scopes of services previously provided by Fenix and Scisson of Nevada (FSN) and Holmes and Narver (H&N) have been combined and are now provided by RSN. The letter further states that the RSN QA program was formed by merging the applicable parts of the FSN and H&N QA programs, including the Quality Assurance Program Plans, and points out that the FSN and H&N QA programs were previously accepted by the NRC staff with exceptions related to procurement and software QA activities. The OCRWM letter then describes how the software QA exception has been resolved for RSN, and explains that RSN has no procurement responsibilities for the Yucca Mountain Project.

NRC acceptance of the RSN Quality Assurance Program Description (QAPD) was required prior to our evaluation of the acceptability of the RSN QA program, consistent with past NRC practice. The NRC staff accepted the RSN QAPD, Revision 0, which was submitted to the NRC staff by the August 1, 1991, OCRWM letter, by my letter to you dated December 16, 1991.

The software QA exception to the FSN and H&N QA programs was based on lack of OCRWM acceptance of the software QA programs, as some aspects of the programs were not fully developed and implemented. The August 1, 1991, OCRWM letter documents that the RSN Software Quality Assurance Plan has been approved by OCRWM, that appropriate RSN implementing procedures have been issued, and that implementation of the procedures has been reviewed in a QA surveillance and determined to be effective. The NRC staff agrees that the software QA exception, as it applies to the RSN QA program, has been resolved.

Based on the NRC staff observation of the OCRWM audits and surveillances of the RSN QA program, and independent evaluation of the information provided in the August 1, 1991, letter, the NRC staff agrees with the OCRWM conclusion that the RSN QA program is acceptable for implementation of new site characterization activities.

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The NRC staff will continue to monitor the RSN QA program, by participating on a selective basis as observers in the OCRWM audit process or by performing its own independent audits or surveillances, to verify the adequacy and effectiveness of implementation of this QA program.

Should you have any questions concerning the NRC staff acceptance of the RSN QA program, please contact Mr. Kenneth Hooks of my staff at (301)504-2447/FTS 964-2447.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by *David Brooks*
for

Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
- C. Gertz, DOE/NV
- S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
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