

FEB 06 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR: Joseph J. Holonich, Director  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management

FROM: Kenneth R. Hooks, Section Leader  
Quality Assurance Section  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT AND OPERATING CONTRACTOR READINESS REVIEW

On December 18, 1991, I observed a Readiness Review (RR) Board meeting held by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Management and Operating Contractor (M&O), TRW Environmental Safety Systems, Inc., at their offices in Fairfax, Virginia. The RR Board met to be briefed on the RR conducted at the M&O Las Vegas office on December 11-12, 1991, which was observed by John Gilray. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was invited to observe the RR activities by J. P. Roberts (DOE) letter to J. Linehan (NRC) dated November 29, 1991. The RR Board meeting was also attended by Ram Murthy of the DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) Division of Quality Assurance, and Sam Horton of the OCRWM Yucca Mountain Quality Assurance Division.

The RR Board heard presentations from Jim Clark of the M&O Nevada Site Organization and Bob Godman, the M&O RR Team Leader, describing the M&O Nevada Site Organization, its quality affecting scope of work for Fiscal Year (FY) 1992, (mainly design studies of the interfaces between the Exploratory Studies Facility and the geologic repository) and the RR process. In general, the RR was intended to determine that necessary procedures were in place and personnel were trained. The RR Board then reviewed in detail a draft Readiness Review Report prepared by the RR Team. The RR Board asked numerous, in-depth questions concerning the M&O Nevada Site Organization and the RR process, both during the oral presentations and after review of the draft report, and offered a number of recommendations to the RR Team on additions and clarifications to the draft report. It is my understanding that the final M&O RR report will be sent to the NRC by DOE.

The RR Team determined that the M&O Nevada Site Organization has the necessary quality assurance (QA) controls in place to enable them to begin work under the M&O QA program, once a relatively small number of open items has been resolved. The RR Board agreed with this conclusion, after adding several open items to the original RR Team list. The RR Team and the RR Board then informed the M&O General Manager that the M&O Nevada Site Organization would be ready to start the FY92 quality affecting scope of work which falls under the M&O QA program after the open items are resolved. In general, the open items involved correcting procedures to clarify or provide additional controls for handling interfaces, design inputs and design reviews. In addition, software QA procedures needed to be developed, and QA grading packages need to be identified or developed.

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Joseph J. Holonich

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OCRWM intends to audit the quality affecting activities of the M&O Nevada Site Organization after it has completed enough work to form the basis for a meaningful audit. I would expect the NRC to observe this and future OCRWM audits to evaluate the implementation of the M&O QA program.

Original Signed by *William Balke*

*for*

Kenneth R. Hooks, Section Leader  
Quality Assurance Section  
Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management

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