

REVISED TO CORRECT
DATE AND ENCLOSURES

OCT 29 1992

Mr. John P. Roberts, Acting Associate Director
for Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Roberts:

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 1992, QUALITY ASSURANCE MEETING

I am transmitting the enclosed minutes of the September 17, 1992, quality assurance (QA) meeting. The meeting attendees included representatives from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); Nuclear Waste Management System Management and Operating Contractor; the State of Nevada (by telephone); Churchill County, Nevada; the City of North Las Vegas, Nevada; Edison Electric Institute; and the U.S. Geological Survey.

During the meeting, DOE presented information on the following topics: (1) FY93 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) audit schedule, (2) OCRWM evaluation of status of the DOE Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Vitrification Projects Division (EM-343) QA program, (3) update on QA oversight of core drilling and other field activities at Yucca Mountain, (4) evaluation of recent earthquakes near the Yucca Mountain site, (5) update on university QA programs, (6) QA controls on scientific studies and corroborating data, (6) DOE qualification of existing data, and (7) status of integration/consolidation of OCRWM Headquarters and Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office Procedures.

Also during the meeting, NRC presented information on these topics: (1) update on field trip on corrective actions and trending; (2) status of NRC QA open items; (3) NRC summary of observation audits of the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses, Raytheon Services Nevada, and EM-343; and (4) status of NRC evaluation of OCRWM Participant Quality Assurance Program Description changes.

During the meeting, NRC noted that there had been considerable improvement in the timeliness of DOE's submittal of audit plans and technical checklists prior to audits. On the other hand, the NRC also noted that it has not received notice of any DOE audits scheduled after October 1992. This has made it difficult for NRC to plan its future activities. In response, DOE stated that the FY93 OCRWM Audit Schedule is still under management review. This should be completed during the week of September 21, 1992, and a copy will be transmitted to NRC. The DOE also noted that it will be providing NRC with a revised Quality Assurance Requirements Document (QARD) in October 1992. The DOE will

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brief the NRC, State of Nevada, and affected units of local government on the conduct of the FY93 audits and the revised QARD in late October 1992.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed meeting minutes, please contact Ken Hooks of my staff at (301) 504-2447.

Sincerely,

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Joseph J. Holonich, 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: R. Loux, State of Nevada
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
C. Gertz, DOE/NV
M. Murphy, Nye County, NV
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
D. Weigel, GAO
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA
V. Poe, Mineral County, NV
F. Sperry, White Pine County, NV
R. Williams, Lander County, NV
P. Goicoechea, Eureka County, NV
L. Vaughan II, Esmeralda County, NV
C. Shank, Churchill County, NV
E. Holstein, Nye County, NV

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