

JUL 14 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, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Roberts:

SUBJECT: OBSERVATION OF AUDIT OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION  
PROJECT OFFICE

I am transmitting the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Observation Audit Report No. 92-11 for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) Quality Assurance (QA) Audit No. YMP-92-15 of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) conducted at Las Vegas, Nevada, from May 4-7, 1992. The NRC staff evaluated the DOE/OQA audit to gain confidence that OQA and YMPO are properly implementing the requirements of the OCRWM QA program. The NRC staff based its evaluation of the DOE/OQA audit process and the YMPO QA program on direct observations of the auditors, discussions with the audit team and YMPO and contractor personnel, and reviews of the pertinent audit information (e.g., audit plan, checklists, and YMPO documents).

The NRC staff observed only that portion of the audit dealing with procurement document control. In this area, the NRC staff agrees with the preliminary DOE/OQA audit team findings that the remedial and corrective actions associated with Corrective Action Request YM-92-007 are satisfactory, and no other activities associated with this area have taken place since the February 1992 audit. The audit team did not issue any preliminary Corrective Action Requests as a result of this audit.

The NRC staff has determined that DOE/OQA Audit No. YMP-92-15 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 its assignments and checklist items were adequately described in the audit plan. The audit team did not include any technical specialists and no evaluation was made of the technical adequacy of work products.

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Mr. John P. Roberts

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A written response to this letter or the enclosed report is not required. If you have any questions, please call Ken Hooks on (301) 504-2447.

Sincerely,

*JS*

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. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee  
C. Gertz, DOE/NV  
S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV  
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