

AUG 24 1993

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, 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. Shelor:

SUBJECT: OBSERVATION REPORT NO. 93-S4 ON SURVEILLANCE NO. YMP-SR-93-033 OF
 THE CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MANAGEMENT AND
 OPERATING CONTRACTOR

I am transmitting the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Surveillance Observation Report No. 93-S4 for the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), Yucca Mountain Quality Assurance Division (YMQAD), Quality Assurance (QA) Surveillance No. YMP-SR-93-033 of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management System Management and Operating Contractor (M&O) conducted in Las Vegas, Nevada on July 15-16, 1993. Representatives from OCRWM Headquarters, M&O Vienna, Virginia, and the State of Nevada also participated as an observers on this surveillance.

The NRC staff observed and evaluated the M&O surveillance to gain confidence that the YMQAD and M&O are properly implementing the requirements of their QA programs by assessing the effectiveness of the YMQAD surveillance and the adequacy of the M&O QA program in the areas surveilled. The NRC staff's evaluation is based on direct observations of the surveillance process, discussions with the surveillance team members, and reviews of the pertinent M&O records.

The scope of the surveillance was to review the design control process utilized for the development and processing of design drawings involving the realignment of the Exploratory Studies Facility Starter Tunnel.

The NRC staff has determined that the YMQAD surveillance of the design control process was useful and effective. As a result of the surveillance, four preliminary Corrective Action Requests (CARs) were issued, one against the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office and three against the M&O. The NRC staff agrees with the surveillance team's preliminary conclusion that the M&O design process was ineffective in the area surveilled.

The NRC staff will continue to closely monitor the implementation of the M&O QA program, especially in the area of design, to ensure that the deficiencies identified during this surveillance are corrected in a timely manner and that QA program implementation is effective.

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