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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

JUN 13 1994

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, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 1994, QUALITY ASSURANCE MEETING

I am transmitting the enclosed minutes of the February 23, 1994, quality assurance (QA) meeting. The meeting attendees included representatives from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; U.S. Department of Energy (DOE); Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB); Civilian Radioactive Waste Management System Management and Operating Contractor (M&O); Edison Electric Institute (EEI); Weston; and the State of Nevada.

At this meeting, DOE presented information on the following topics: (1) an update on the status of implementing the new Quality Assurance Requirements and Description document for the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program (QARD); (2) an update on graded QA and the new Q-List; (3) an overview of the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM); (4) the status of the DOE/Nye County Cooperative Drilling Program; (5) the status of corrective actions from previous audits of DOE Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management, Waste Management Projects, Vitrification Projects Division (EM-343); (6) an update on the audit schedule for FY 1994; (7) the status of the M&O Design Control Improvement Plan; (8) the design process and its relationship to the Determination of Importance Evaluation; and (9) an update on QA overview of site characterization field activities. The NRC discussed briefly its recent observations, surveillances and the status of QA open items. The State of Nevada expressed concern about the impact of proposed organizational changes in NRC's high-level waste program on QA oversight of DOE's program. DOE and the representative from EEI expressed similar concerns.

During the meeting DOE described in detail the status of a number of QA-related programs such as implementation of the QARD, the fabrication of the TBM and corrective actions from audits of EM-343. It was noted that DOE and Nye County have not yet reached agreement on activities for the Cooperative Drilling Program.

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Mr. Dwight E. Shelor

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If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed meeting minutes, please contact William Belke of my staff at (301) 415-5874.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
High-Level Waste and Uranium
Recovery Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
- T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
- J. Meder, Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau
- R. Nelson, YMPO
- 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. Mariani, White Pine County, NV
- R. Williams, Lander County, NV
- L. Fiorenzi, Eureka County, NV
- J. Hoffman, Esmeralda County, NV
- C. Schank, Churchill County, NV
- L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV
- W. Barnard, NWTRB

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