



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

NOV 9 1993

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director  
Repository Licensing & Quality Assurance  
Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

In preparation for the November 18, 1993, Interactions Planning Meeting with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to discuss the desired interaction topics during the first half of 1994, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared the enclosed list of proposed interaction topics for NRC's consideration.

During the October 4-5, 1993, technical exchange, Joseph Holonich of the NRC's Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate requested that DOE and NRC begin bimonthly status update meetings on Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) activities similar to those currently conducted for quality assurance activities. Accordingly, DOE has included several technical meetings in the enclosed list of proposed interactions for ESF discussions. We intend to reassess whether or not the bimonthly frequency is the most advantageous to DOE and NRC before the next Interactions Planning Meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Chris Einberg of my staff at (202) 586-8869.

Sincerely,

Dwight E. Shelor  
Associate Director  
Office of Systems and Compliance  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management

Enclosure:  
Proposed DOE/NRC Interactions  
Topics

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cc w/Enclosure:

R. Dyer, YMPO  
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee  
R. Loux, State of Nevada  
S. Zimmerman, State of Nevada  
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV  
L. Fiorenzi, Eureka County, NV  
R. Williams, Lander County, NV  
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV  
W. Offutt, Nye County, NV  
L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV  
C. Schank, Churchill County, NV  
F. Mariani, White Pine County, NV  
V. Poe, Mineral County, NV  
J. Pitts, Lincoln County, NV  
J. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV  
B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA  
K. Hooks, NRC

PROPOSED DOE/NRC INTERACTION TOPICS FOR JANUARY-JUNE 1994

Type: Technical Meeting

Topic: Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Status

Objective: To provide an update of activities related to the design and construction of the ESF.

Scope: To discuss activities related to the ESF that have occurred since the October 1993 Technical Exchange, and to discuss or expand upon selected design topics from the October 4-5, 1993, ESF Technical Exchange in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Date: (1 day) second week of December 1993

Location: Rockville, MD

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Type: Technical Meeting

Topic: Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Status

Objective: To provide an update of activities related to the design and construction of the ESF.

Scope: To be negotiated during a DOE/NRC telephone conference prior to the meeting.

Date: (1 day) February 1994

Location: Rockville, MD

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Type: Technical Exchange

Topic: Technical Aspects of Groundwater Flow Relevant to the NRC's Examination of Ground Water Travel Time (GWTT)

Objective: To provide a forum for DOE and NRC to share the current understanding of the technical aspects of groundwater flow in physical systems.

Scope: This interaction would encompass the technical aspects of groundwater flow as they relate to the arrival of contaminants at the accessible environment in a manner distributed in time, space, and concentration.

Date: (1 day) March 1994

Location: Rockville, MD

Type: Technical Exchange  
Topic: Total System Performance Assessment (TSPA)  
Objective: To provide an update on the progress achieved by DOE and NRC in the area of total system performance assessment  
Scope: To discuss the preliminary results of DOE's TSPA, the integration of site characterization results into the TSPA, DOE's scenario methodology, and radionuclide release modeling. The interaction would also provide NRC an opportunity to discuss progress/status of NRC's Iterative Performance Assessment (IPA), status of NRC's proposed guidance on model validation, and NRC's use of site characterization data.  
Date: (2 days) April 1994  
Location: Las Vegas, NV

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Type: Technical Meeting  
Topic: Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Status  
Objective: To provide an update of activities related to the design and construction of the ESF  
Scope: To be negotiated during a DOE/NRC telephone conference prior to the meeting.  
Date: (1 day) April 1994  
Location: Las Vegas, NV

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Type: Site Visit  
Topic: Surface-Based/Underground Site Characterization Activities  
Objective: Update NRC on ongoing mapping and site characterization studies  
Scope: Visit surface exposures, new trenches, excavations, and pavements. Visit excavations of the Ghost Dance fault in Antelope Valley/Antler Ridge and excavations of the Bare Mountain Fault in Tarantula Canyon.  
Date: (2 days) May or June 1994  
Location: Nevada Test Site Area 25 and Crater Flat