



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585
NOV 22 1993

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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:

The 90 percent design review for Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Package 2B will begin on December 13, 1993. You will receive a preliminary, predecisional copy of the design package documentation on or about December 13, 1993, and a design review meeting will be held on January 5-7, 1994, at the Holiday Inn, 325 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The enclosure explains the process by which the U.S. Department of Energy will conduct this and future ESF design reviews. The design review begins with the design package being mailed out to all of the reviewers and interested observers. Included in the mailing will be an overview of the package and instructions for the reviewers. The design review meeting (three days) follows in two weeks with the first day providing a complete overview of the design package and process. The last two days consist of a formal presentation of the package by the actual designers covering the design input used, the assumptions made, applicable codes and specifications, any analyses, and the resulting design output.

We welcome and encourage your participation as an observer for this review. While the design review is not an interactive meeting where comments can be brought forward by observers, we will be continuing our previous practice of holding a short meeting with the observers at the end of each day of design review. The purpose of this short meeting is to collect observations and respond to those observations either immediately or to ensure that questions are answered the following day. As in the past, significant comments will be included by the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project regulatory reviewer in his formal comment package.

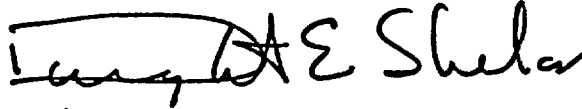
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If you have any questions, please contact Chris Einberg of my staff at (202) 586-8869.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwight E. Shelor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the first few letters.

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

Enclosure:
Revised Design Review Process

cc: w/enclosure
R. Nelson, YMPO
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
R. Loux, State of Nevada
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV
Eureka County, NV
Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV
L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
W. Offutt, 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

M&O Revised Design Review Process

- The M&O currently holds major design reviews at the 50% and 90% points of the design. The new process, described below, is intended to improve the quality of the review by providing the review package to the reviewers prior to the actual review meeting. Previously, the design review packages were distributed at the design review meeting. In the future, packages will be mailed out two weeks prior to the design review meeting. The sequence of events for the design review process will be as follows:

1. Mail the design package to reviewers and interested observers. Day 1
 - Contains overview and instructions on reviewing the package
2. Reviewers/Observers familiarize themselves with package. Day 2 - 14 (two weeks)
3. Design Review Meeting. Day 15 - 17 (three days)
 - Complete overview of design package and process (one day)
 - Formal presentation of package, page-by-page (two days)
 - All completed comments that do not require revision as a result of attending the presentation may be submitted at the end of three day meeting.
4. Reviewers finalize any comments that might have changed as a result of attending the design review meeting. Day 18 - 20 (three days overlap)
5. Responses to comments prepared. Day 17 - 31 (two weeks)
 - Prepare redlines to documents, if required
 - Time depends on number of comments
6. Responses mailed to reviewers. Day 31
7. Reviewers review modified documents and responses. Day 31 - 38 (one week)
8. Comment Resolution Meeting. Day 38 -39 (1 - 2 days)
 - If required

The above process is the implementation of QAP 3-14, Technical and Management Reviews, which governs how the M&O conducts design reviews. The comment resolution process will continue to follow QAP 3-1, Technical Document Reviews.

ENCLOSURE

**90% DESIGN REVIEW
DESIGN PACKAGE 2B
NORTH RAMP STUDIES, ANALYSES AND SPECIFICATIONS**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date	Time	Location	Purpose
December 13, 1993	N/A	N/A	Mail Review Packages
December 14-23, 1993	N/A	N/A	Reviewers examine package
January 5, 1994 Wednesday	8:30a - 4:30p	Holiday Inn 325 E. Flamingo Rd Las Vegas Nevada	Design Review Meeting, overview
January 6, 1994 Thursday	8:00a - 5:00p	Room 450	Package Presentation
January 7, 1994 Friday	8:00a - 5:00p	Room 450	Package Presentation Completed comments may be turned in
January 10, 1994	5:00p	N/A	Final Comments due
January 7-14, 1994	N/A	N/A	Comment response preparation
January 14, 1994	N/A	N/A	Responses mailed to reviewers
January 17-21, 1994	N/A	N/A	Reviewers review responses
January 24, 1994	8:00a - 5:00p	Room 450	Comment Resolution Meeting, if required