



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

OCT 27 1994

Mr. Joseph Holonich
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

RESPONSE TO QUALITY ASSURANCE MEETING - AUGUST 29, 1991

Dear Mr. Holonich:

At the subject meeting, an inquiry was raised by Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff during a presentation on the status of the then newly initiated Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management's (OCRWM) Quality Concerns Program (QCP). NRC staff inquired as to whether any of the documentation related to quality concerns would be made available to the public to avoid future problems that may surface from interested parties.

The following response is provided to that inquiry:

Due to the fact that one of the basic precepts of the OCRWM Quality Concerns Program is to provide confidentiality to individuals submitting issues, documentation related to OCRWM Quality Concern Program activities may be made available only after a case-by-case review of the requested information.

It is OCRWM's position that one of its primary responsibilities with the Quality Concerns Program is to maintain confidentiality, when requested by an individual, and to then take prudent efforts to preclude the release of an individual's name that may be associated with a specific concern. In this regard, specific requests will be carefully reviewed to assure that information which could identify an individual is appropriately secured. If this cannot be accomplished due to the uniqueness of an issue, additional management and legal reviews will be necessary prior to responding to the request to release specific documentation.

We trust that this response addresses the staff inquiry. Should you have any questions, please contact Christopher Kouts, Acting Director, OCRWM's Regulatory Integration Division on (202) 586-9761.

Ronald A. Milner

Ronald A. Milner, Acting Director
Office of Program Management
and Integration
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

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cc:

R. Nelson, YMPO
R. Loux, State of Nevada
W. Offutt, Nye County, NV
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV
Eureka County, NV
Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, 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
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W. Barnard, NWTRB
M. Steindler, ACNW