

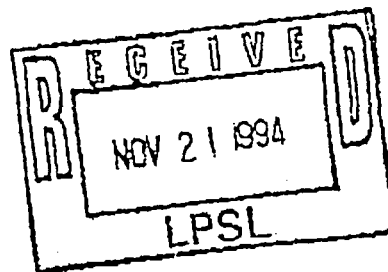
UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 17, 1994

Les W. Bradshaw, Project Manager
Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Project Office
P.O. Box 1767
Tonopah, Nevada 89049

SUBJECT: NWRPO QUALITY ASSURANCE MANUAL



Dear Mr. Bradshaw:

On November 11, 1994, you transmitted the Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Project Office (NWRPO) draft Quality Assurance Manual for NRC review and informal comment. Your letter indicates that NWRPO is requesting NRC's review to receive "reasonable assurance that the data generated under its direction will have credibility with the NRC in future potential licensing proceedings."

It would be inappropriate for the NRC to determine the acceptability of the NWRPO draft Quality Assurance Manual based on an informal review and comment process. The NRC's basis for reviewing quality assurance (QA) program documents is the Review Plan for High-Level Waste Repository Quality Assurance Program Descriptions. This review plan is incorporated into Section 10 of the License Application Review Plan (NUREG-1323). In order for the data collected under the NWRPO Independent Scientific Investigation Program to be acceptable, it should be collected under a QA program that meets and implements Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10CFR), Part 63, Subpart G (which references 10 CFR, Part 50, Appendix B).

NWRPO has requested that NRC provide comments within four weeks time. The NRC QA staff is currently committed to working to close NRC comments regarding the QA programs of the DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management and its Management and Operations contractor as stated in the Bernero to Dreyfus letter dated September 13, 1994. Due to this commitment and the upcoming holidays it is unlikely that a review of the NWRPO draft Quality Assurance Manual could be completed until the end of January, 1995.

Provided NWRPO still believes an NRC review of the draft Quality Assurance Manual would be beneficial given the circumstances described above, please contact Robert Johnson at 301-415-7282 to set up a mutually acceptable review schedule.

Sincerely,

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

From: Network Control Center (NCC)
To: N:\OFFADMIN\ALLGROUP\AR1.GRP, N:\OFFADMIN\ALLGROUP\AT1.GRP,..
Date: Thursday, November 17, 1994 12:35 pm
Subject: *** Network Bulletin (TGH) ***

***** PLEASE SEND ALL E-MAIL REPLIES TO ACCOUNT - TGH *****

PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON THE AGENCY'S PROBABILISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will conduct a public workshop on December 2, 1994, in the TWFN Auditorium to discuss the Commission's Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Implementation Plan. The workshop will commence at 8:30 am and conclude by 4:30 pm.

The PRA Implementation Plan (SECY-94-219) was developed to ensure that the increased use of PRA methods and technology in nuclear regulatory activities would be implemented in a consistent and predictable manner that promotes regulatory stability and efficiency. The purpose of the workshop is to inform the public of NRC activities related to increasing the use of PRA methods and techniques in regulatory applications and receive public comments on these activities. The principal focus of this workshop will be PRA applications for commercial power reactors and while the NRC presentations will be broad in nature, NRC staff representatives from NRR, RES, NMSS, and AEOD will be

present to address specific areas of concern or specific line items in the PRA Implementation Plan. Additional information and a tentative agenda are contained in the Federal Register notice announcing the workshop (59 FR54925).

NRC staff members that plan to attend all, or part, of the workshop should notify Tom Hiltz (E-MAIL: TGH; 504-1105) by November 28, 1994.