



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

May 20, 1996

Mr. Ronald A. Milner, Director
for Program Management and Integration
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy, RW 30
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

SUBJECT: REVISION 5 OF THE OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT
QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS AND DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT

Dear Mr. Milner:

Thank you for your letter of May 7, 1996, responding to our request for additional information (RAI) regarding Revision 5 of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) Quality Assurance Requirements and Description document (QARD - DOE/RW-0333P) dated October 2, 1995. We have reviewed your letter and have the following comments:

1. The response to RAI 4 refers to OCRWM Quality Assurance Procedure QAP 2.7, "Management Assessment." This procedure requires an annual management assessment of the OCRWM quality assurance program. In this regard, please include the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on the distribution of Notification Letters, Management Assessment Plans, Management Assessment Reports, approved Responses, and memoranda of completed actions as required by QAP 2.7.
2. The response to RAI 5 indicates that data analyses are required to be reviewed by QARD Section 3, "Design Control," and that Section III.2.4 will be revised to address the review of technical reports. Results of analyzing field data are generally reported in technical reports rather than in design documents *per se*. Therefore, we request prompt issuance of the revision to QARD Section III.
3. The response to RAI 16 describes what DOE means by "technical adequacy." We recommend that the essence of the response be incorporated into the QARD.

We conclude that the QARD can continue to serve as an adequate framework for OCRWM, its contractors, and its sub-contractors to develop specific policies, plans, and procedures to implement their respective programs. This letter documents NRC acceptance of Revision 5 of the QARD.

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Except as noted in the comments, no response to this letter is required. If you have any questions, please call Jack Spraul of my staff on (301) 415-6715.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by:]
John H. Austin, Chief
Performance Assessment and High-Level
Waste Integration Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

- cc: C. Johnson, State of Nevada
- S. Zimmerman, State of Nevada
- J. Meder, Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau
- M. Murphy, Nye County, NV
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
- D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
- P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
- B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA
- V. Poe, Mineral County, NV
- W. Cameron, 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
- R. Holden, NCAI
- A. Melendez, NIEC
- R. Arnold, Pahrump, NV
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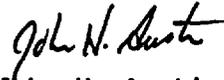
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