

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



July 8, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Michael Bell, Acting Chief
Performance Assessment and HLW Integration Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards

FROM: William L. Belke, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative for Quality Assurance and Engineered Systems *WLB*
Chad J. Glenn, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative for Natural Systems and Total Systems *Chad Glenn*

SUBJECT: U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ON-SITE LICENSING REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT FOR JUNE 1997

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission On-Site Representative's (OR's) report for the period of June 1-30, 1997.

The principal purpose of the OR reports is to alert NRC staff, managers and contractors to information on U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) programs for site characterization, repository design, performance assessment, and environmental studies that may be of use in fulfilling NRC's role during pre-licensing consultation. The principal focus of this and future OR reports will be on DOE's programs for the Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF), surface-based testing, performance assessment, data management systems and environmental studies. Relevant information includes new technical data, DOE's plans and schedules, and the status of activities to pursue site suitability and ESF development. The ORs also participate in activities associated with resolving NRC Key Technical Issues (KTI). In addition to communication of this information, any potential licensing concerns, or opinions raised in this report represent the views of the ORs and not that of NRC headquarters' staff.

This report highlights a number of Yucca Mountain Project activities of potential interest to NRC staff. The OR's participated in the June 11, 1997, NRC/DOE quarterly technical meeting (video conference) held in Washington, D.C., and Las Vegas, NV. Also, an Appendix 7 meeting was held June 11-12, 1997, in Las Vegas, NV, to obtain information and clarification of the open issues related to the October 13, 1994, letter, R. Bernero, NRC, to D. Dreyfus, DOE, expressing concerns with the quality assurance program. The ORs made arrangements and

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participated in several Yucca Mountain site visits by NRC technical staff and Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses personnel.

The ORs continue to respond to requests from NRC Headquarters staff to provide various documentation and feedback related to KTIs and their resolution.

If you have any questions on this report or its enclosures, please call William L. Belke or Chad J. Glenn on (702) 388-6125.

cc w/enclosures as stated:

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