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MAY 16 1991

RC/NRC-DOE MAY MEET

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy RW-30
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TOPICS FOR FUTURE INTERACTIONS

Enclosed is a list of proposed topics for discussion at the May 30, 1991 interactions scheduling meeting. The staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is providing the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) with this information for its use in preparing for this meeting. The format used to identify the proposed topics is consistent with that agreed upon at the previous interactions scheduling meeting. This meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., and will be held in room 6-B-11 of NRC's White Flint North Building.

In providing this list (enclosure 1), the NRC staff has identified a number of proposed interactions that cover the six-month period from June to November 1991. Also included are several proposed interactions (see enclosure 2) for which the staff has not identified specific dates, but which need to be discussed at the May 30, 1991 meeting.

Also, the NRC staff would like to discuss interactions it and DOE might need relative to the design of the exploratory study facility (formerly known as the "exploratory shaft facility -- ESF"). During the July 1989 meeting on the ESF design and the design control process, DOE agreed to involve the staff in the design of the ESF. In order to accomplish this, DOE agreed to identify points where the NRC staff might gain visibility of the ESF design as it was being developed. Accordingly, at the upcoming May 30, 1991 interactions scheduling meeting, the staff would like DOE to present its proposal on when and how the NRC might gain visibility of the design of the ESF.

In a related matter, DOE recently recommended that it and NRC conduct periodic management meetings in order to discuss the status of major ongoing work at DOE. The NRC staff agrees with DOE's proposal that there is a need for these meetings so that the staff might gain an improved understanding of DOE's program. The staff suggests that these meetings be conducted at six-month intervals, or more often, if needed.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the responsible NRC Project Manager, Mr. Robert D. Carlson. Mr Carlson can be reached at 301/492-0435 or FTS 492-0435.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY Joseph Holonich

John J. Linehan, Acting Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management

Enclosures (2): As stated

cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
C. Gertz, DOE/NV
S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
D. Weigel, GAO
W. Barnard, NWTRB

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