

Mr. Dwight Shelor, Acting Director
 for Program Management and Administration
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
 U. S. Department of Energy
 1000 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, DC 20585

September 30, 1999

**SUBJECT: OBSERVATION AUDIT OF THE CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT
 QUALITY ASSURANCE DIVISION AUDIT M&O-ARC-99-13**

Dear Mr. Schelor:

I am transmitting the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Observation Audit Report OAR 99-06 of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), Office of Quality Assurance (OQA), Yucca Mountain Quality Assurance Division (YMQAD) compliance audit of the OCRWM Quality Assurance (QA) program of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management System Management and Operating (M&O) Contractor. The audit M&O-ARC-99-13 was conducted on August 16-19, 1999, at the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This audit evaluated the SNL's implementation of the OCRWM QA program as described in the Quality Assurance Requirements and Description (QARD) document and implementation procedures. Implementation, adequacy, and determination of effectiveness of SNL's implementation of the QA program was also assessed by the audit team.

The audit team concluded that the OCRWM QA program had been satisfactorily implemented. The audit team identified six deficiencies that were corrected during the audit. Additionally, there were two recommendations resulting from the audit. The NRC staff agrees with the audit team findings and recommendations.

A written response to this letter and the enclosed report is not required. If you have any questions, please contact Ted Carter of my staff at (301) 415-6684.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by:]

C. William Reamer, Chief
 High-Level Waste
 and Performance Assessment Branch
 Division of Waste Management
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

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Enclosure: As stated

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 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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Enclosure: As stated

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Letter to D. Shelor from C.W. Reamer dated: September 30, 1999

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