

STEIN QA LETTER

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MAY 30 1990

Mr. Ralph Stein, Associate Director  
for Systems Integration and Regulations  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
U.S. Department of Energy, RW-30  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Stein:

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 15, 1990 QUALITY ASSURANCE MEETING

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the enclosed minutes of the February 15, 1990 bi-monthly quality assurance (QA) meeting. The participants were: the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the State of Nevada.

During the course of this meeting there was an exchange of information on a number of topics of mutual interest to NRC and DOE with regard to QA in the repository program. DOE was able to provide most of the missing detail regarding schedules and milestones for the recently announced QA program changes. DOE had added a new milestone of NRC acceptance of the DOE QA program to its most recent Project Decision Schedule (PDS). It was necessary for agreement to be reached on the meaning of achieving this new DOE milestone. It was clear to NRC that this milestone did not refer to the removal of the NRC Site Characterization Analysis (SCA) QA objection because it was quite unrealistic to expect the necessary actions to be completed by DOE and reviewed by NRC in that time-frame. It was agreed that the meaning of this milestone is an NRC staff finding of DOE QA program acceptability for further implementation. The lifting of the NRC SCA QA objection was determined to be a separate action which can only take place later, after more program implementation has occurred and been reviewed. The NRC staff then provided an update on the status of each DOE participant's QA program, in terms of the actions necessary to demonstrate that the programs are fully implementable.

Several other issues were discussed. DOE informed the NRC staff that the process for resolving the Privacy Act restrictions is moving toward resolution. DOE and the NRC staff have worked together to resolve a small but significant problem involving the development of a single tracking system for QA Open Items. In addition to these positive developments, several items of concern were raised at the QA meeting. These are discussed below.

A major concern of the NRC staff was the need for interaction involving NRC staff, DOE, and those members of the geoscientific community, in particular, who have continued to voice concerns about carrying out work under a 10 CFR 50 Appendix B QA program. This item was discussed in our May 22, 1990 meeting.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter or the the enclosed meeting minutes, please contact Mark Delligatti of my staff at (301) 492-0430 or FTS 492-0430.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

John J. Linehan, Director  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

*See Jacket*

Enclosure: As Stated *9006050415*

- 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

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KHooks, HLPD			

See previous \*Concurrence

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OFC : HLPD\* : HLPD\* : HLPD\* : HLPD\* :

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NAME: MDelligatti/11: KHooks : JHolonich : JLinehan :

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OFC : HLPD	: HLPD	: HLPD	: HLPD
NAME: MDelligatti	: JHolonich	: KHooks	: JLinehan
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