



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

MAR 01 1990

Mr. Robert M. Bernero  
Director, Office of Nuclear Materials  
Safety and Safeguards  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Bernero:

The Department of Energy is responsible for implementing the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPAct) of 1982 (Pub. L. 97-425), as amended by the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 (Title V, Subtitle A, Pub. L. 100-203). The NWPAct, as amended, establishes, inter alia, the Federal policy for the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste in a mined geologic repository.

Section 114(e) of the NWPAct requires the Secretary of Energy to prepare and update, as appropriate, in cooperation with all affected Federal agencies, a Project Decision Schedule (PDS) that portrays the optimum way to attain repository operation. The PDS is to include a description of objectives and a sequence of deadlines for all Federal agencies that are required to take action in achieving that goal.

The enclosed draft PDS, Revision 1, updates and, when finalized, will replace the original PDS issued by the Department in March 1986. The draft revised PDS contains new activity deadlines, based on the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 and the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management's (OCRWM) Program Schedule Baseline, recently revised to reflect the results of the Department's evaluation of the overall program schedule, as presented in the Secretary's "Report to Congress on Reassessment of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program" (November 1989).

I am requesting that you review the draft revised PDS and provide your comments by April 2, 1990. Subject to resolution of outstanding issues, your response will serve as your agency's initial commitment to the activities, attendant schedules, and deadlines for taking actions appropriate to your agency. If appropriate, OCRWM staff will meet with your staff to resolve any problem areas identified during your review. Questions concerning the enclosed draft may be addressed to Mr. James C. Bresee, Acting Associate Director for Program Administration and Resources Management, RW-10, at 586-9173.


*Copies to  
Carroll  
Holloway  
Return to John*

*John: We need to  
discuss 4/2  
date  
for*

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PDR WASTE PDC  
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The Department appreciates your cooperation and support in its revision of the PDS.

Sincerely,



Samuel Rousso, Acting Director  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Robert E. Browning  
Director, Division of High-Level  
Waste Management  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. John J. Linehan  
Director, Repository Licensing  
and Quality Assurance  
Program Directorate  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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