



Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
Project Office
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QA

SEP 09 1992

*Received from
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9/23/92*

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LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY (LLNL) YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE
CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT FOR 1992

- References: (1) Ltr, Schock to Gertz, dtd 7/23/92
- (2) Ltr, Clarke to Schock, dtd 8/19/92

The Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) has reviewed the referenced Management Assessment and the LLNL YMPO leaders response to the assessment. The following comments are offered to these documents for your information.

It is understood that Management Assessments, of necessity, are performed by individuals independent of the responsible organization. As such, Management Assessment reports are inherently biased to the background and experience of the assessors. With this in mind, and the additional information provided in the response to the report, YMPO believes that the information in the management assessment report can be put into proper perspective. The response to the report contains additional information which parallels the results of the Yucca Mountain Quality Assurance Division quality assurance (QA) audits. In summary, these audits have concluded that the LLNL QA program, which was formally qualified on September 12, 1990, has continued to mature and becomes more effective and responsive to the needs of the project.

While the value of performing required independent Management Assessments is recognized and your resolve to address the recommendations is commendable, one point remains to be emphasized. It must be clearly understood that program buy-in, acceptance and support of a QA program comes from the top-down. Management must understand the program so they can provide directions during the development and implementation of the program. This is an important point and requires our constant vigilance to keep the results of QA-related efforts properly focused.

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ADD: Ken Hooks

Ltr.

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Carl P. Gertz
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YMOAD:RES-5367

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Per your request

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