



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

JUL 8 1994

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
High-Level Waste and Uranium
Recovery Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

Enclosed with this letter is a controlled copy of Study Plan 8.3.1.15.2.2, "Characterization of Site Ambient Conditions," Revision 0 (enclosure 1) prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Yucca Mountain site. The study plan numbers correspond to the same numbers used in the Site Characterization Plan (SCP) for the Yucca Mountain Site.

Study plans are prepared, reviewed, and approved under Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office (YMSCO) quality assurance procedures. It should be noted that there may be some inconsistencies in the milestone report titles and schedules given in this study plan and those in the SCP. Study plans, in general, represent a further evolution of the study in the areas related to schedules and milestones relative to the SCP, and as such, represent DOE's current plans.

This study plan was submitted to YMSCO for review before the 1993 DOE/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) study plan agreement became effective. Therefore, DOE has reviewed the study plan for consistency with the content requirements for study plans, as given in Attachment B to the Summary of the DOE/NRC meeting on the Level-of-Detail for the SCP (May 7-8, 1986). Enclosure 2 is a list of technical procedures that will be used in conjunction with this study plan.

DOE did not identify any site characterization analysis open items related to this study plan.

The Document Transmittal/Acknowledgement Record for your controlled copy of the study plan should be signed and dated and returned to the Document Control Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

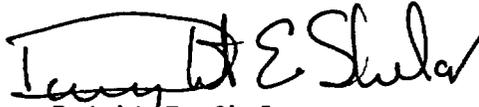
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If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sheila Long at (202) 586-1447.

Sincerely,



Dwight E. Shelor
Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosures:

1. Study Plan 8.3.1.15.2.2,
Revision 0
2. Technical Procedures

cc: w\enclosures

Alice Cortinas, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX

cc: (with Enclosure 2 only)

R. Nelson, YMPO
R. Loux, State of Nevada
W. Offutt, Nye County, NV
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV
Eureka County, NV
Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV
C. Schank, Churchill County, NV
F. Mariani, White Pine County, NV
V. Poe, Mineral County, NV
J. Pitts, Lincoln County, NV
J. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV
B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA
P. Brooks, NRC

**TECHNICAL PROCEDURES
FOR STUDY PLAN 8.3.1.15.2.2**

In Study Plan 8.3.1.15.2.2, Section 3.2 (page 3-1), technical procedures are referenced as "This activity involves the analysis of data to be collected in Activity 8.3.1.8.5.2.3, the methods for which are described in technical procedures pertinent to that study."

The technical procedures for Activity 8.3.1.8.5.2.3 are:

USGS Technical Procedure GPP-20: Measurement of subsurface temperature

USGS Technical Procedure GPP-21: Measurement of thermal conductivity of rocks