



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

FEB 7 1992

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level 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 8.3.1.5.1.3, prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Yucca Mountain Site. The study plan number corresponds to the same number used in the Site Characterization Plan (SCP). The study plan is identified as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>
8.3.1.5.1.3, Revision 0	"Climatic Interpretations of Terrestrial Paleoecology"

DOE has reviewed this study plan for consistency with the content requirements for study plans, as given in Attachment B to the Summary of the DOE/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) meeting on the Level-of-Detail for the SCP (May 7-8, 1986). DOE is submitting this plan to the NRC as agreed to in the meeting.

As discussed during the DOE/NRC meeting (December 15, 1988) on study plans, DOE has decided to control preparation and review of study plans as a quality-affecting activity. This study plan was reviewed under current Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) quality assurance (QA) procedures. Study plans prepared under current procedures do not require detailed information on QA requirements. To satisfy the May 7-8, 1986, agreement to provide specific QA requirements, current study plans indicate that applicable QA criteria will be specified in YMPO QA grading reports, which are issued as separate controlled documents.

It should also 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 in the SCP, and, as such, represent DOE's current plans.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Sharon Skuchko of my office at (202) 586-4590.

Sincerely,



John P. Roberts
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure:

Study Plan 8.3.1.5.1.3, Revision 0, "Climatic Interpretations of Terrestrial Paleoecology"

cc w/Enclosure:

Arturo Ramose, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX

cc w/o Enclosure:

C. Gertz, YMPO
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