

Department of Energy Washington, DC 20585

JUN 5 1992

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing & Quality Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 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 which replaces the Study Plan that was transmitted to NRC by letter dated February 7, 1992. The Study Plan numbers correspond to the same numbers used in the Site Characterization Plan (SCP) for the Yucca Mountain Site.

Number

Title

8.3.1.5.1.3

"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 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 activity. This Study Plan was reviewed under current Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) and U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) 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, DOE/NRC SCP meeting agreement to provide specific QA requirements, current study plans indicate that applicable QA criteria will be specified in Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project QA Grading Reports, which are issued as separate controlled documents.

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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 relative to the SCP, and as such, represent DOE's current plans.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Chris Einberg of my office at 202-586-8869.

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

"Climatic Interpretations of Terrestrial Paleoecology"

cc w/Enclosure: Arturo Ramose, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX

CC w/o Enclosure:

C. Gertz, YMPO

R. Loux, State of Nevada

M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV

J. Bingham, Clark County, NV

B. Raper, Nye County, NV

P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV

G. Derby, Lander County, NV

P. Goicoechea, Eureka, NV

C. Schank, Churchill County, NV

F. Mariani, White Pine County, NV

V. Poe, Mineral County, NV

E. Wright, Lincoln County, NV

J. Pitts, Lincoln County, NV

R. Williams, Lander County, NV

J. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV

M. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV

B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA

C. Abrams, NRC



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