

WB/QARD&QAPD SPENT FUEL

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APR 15 1991

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Acting Associate Director
for Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U. S. Department of Energy, RW 30
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT (QARD) AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (QAPD) FOR TRANSPORT OF SPENT FUEL AND HIGH-LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE AND MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE SYSTEM

The purpose of this letter is to provide a response to the February 1, 1991, telephone call made by D. Horton and R. Clark of the DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management to K. Hooks of the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In this telephone call, D. Horton requested that the NRC review and accept the QARD and QAPD for the transport of spent fuel and high-level nuclear waste and the monitored retrievable storage (MRS) system.

In a December 3, 1990, letter (J. Linehan to D. Shelor), the NRC accepted the QARD and QAPD subject to the satisfactory resolution of six open items. This letter also stated that the NRC staff did not perform a review of the QARD and QAPD pertaining to transport of nuclear fuel and high-level nuclear waste and MRS system. As a result of the February 1, 1991, DOE telephone call, the QARD and QAPD were reviewed by the NRC personnel having responsibility for transport of nuclear fuel and high-level waste and the MRS system. The results of this review are as follows:

A. Transport of Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Waste

- (1) The QARD and QAPD are acceptable as meeting the requirements of Appendix H of 10 CFR Part 71, provided the six open issues identified in the NRC letter of December 3, 1990, are satisfactorily resolved.
- (2) Section 1.0 a. of Appendix B of the QAPD should read, "Transportation operations planning, scheduling ..." (instead of "shielding").
- (3) Section 1.0 of Appendix B in the next to last paragraph should read, "...Systems and Compliance..." (instead of "Systems Compliance").

B. MRS System

- (1) Sections 1 through 19 of the QARD appear generally acceptable. Appendix D of the QARD should be modified similar to the way Appendices A and B amplify the QARD for the mined geologic disposal system and

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waste acceptance process. Examples of such modifications would include, but not be limited to, considerations in the areas of QA program scope, readiness reviews, graded QA, peer reviews, etc.

- (2) Similarly, for the QAPD, the NRC staff also finds it to be generally acceptable. However, as in the aforementioned comment (1) for the QARD, consideration should also be given to modifying Appendix C of the QAPD similar to the way Appendices A and B amplify the QAPD.

Should you have any questions concerning our review, please contact William Belke of my staff on (301) 492-0445.

Sincerely,

for ORIGINAL SIGNED BY *John J. Linehan*
 John J. Linehan, Acting Director
 Repository Licensing and Quality
 Assurance Project Directorate
 Division of High-Level Waste Management
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
 C. Gertz, DOE/NV
 S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
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