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QA: N

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TRANSMITTAL OF APPROVED STUDY PLAN 8.3.1.4.2.1, "CHARACTERIZATION OF THE VERTICAL AND LATERAL DISTRIBUTION OF STRATIGRAPHIC UNITS WITHIN THE SITE AREA," REVISION 4 (SCPB: 8.3.1.4.2.1)

Enclosed with this letter is a controlled copy of the revised pages of Study Plan 8.3.1.4.2.1, Revision 4 (enclosure 1) prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Yucca Mountain site. The study plan revision has been identified as a restricted technical revision. The revision modifies certain sections of the study plan dealing primarily with geophysical surveys. Most of these revisions are minor, except for section 3.2.4, which now includes a more detailed description of the "electrical surveys" topic. 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.

DOE has reviewed the study plan for consistency with the content requirements for study plans, as given in Attachment 1 to the 1993 DOE/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Level of Detail agreement and review process for study plans. Tables 3.1-1, 3.2-1, 3.3-1, 3.4-1, and 3.5-1 are a list of the technical procedures associated with each activity that will be used in conjunction with this study plan. These tables were not revised as a result of this revision.

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The DOE did identify one Site Characterization Analysis open item (comment 34) related to this study plan. Section 2.1.1.2 and Figures 2.1-1 and 2.1-2 of the subject study plan are related to this topic; however, these items were not revised as a result of this revision. In addition, the open item discusses YMSCO management issues, such as drill hole scheduling, that are defined during YMSCO fiscal planning activities. NRC on-site representatives are welcome to discuss these issues with the Scientific Integration Team Leader.

Only the revised pages of Revision 4 and pages of Revision 0 that changed the page number have been transmitted to you. Please replace the appropriate pages and return the signed and dated Document Transmittal/Acknowledgement Record for your controlled copy of the study plan to the Document Control Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

If you have any questions, please contact Juliana M. Banks at (702) 794-7203.

Stephan J. Brocoum
Assistant Manager for
Suitability and Licensing

AMSP:JMB-3016

Enclosure:
Study Plan 8.3.1.4.2.1, Revision 4

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