

APR 5 1993

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) STUDY PLAN
"CHARACTERIZATION OF THE FUTURE REGIONAL HYDROLOGY DUE TO CLIMATE
CHANGES"

On December 24, 1992, DOE transmitted the study plan, "Characterization of Future Regional Hydrology Due to Climate Changes" (Study Plan 8.3.1.5.2.2) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for review and comment. NRC has completed its review of this document using the Review Plan for NRC Staff Review of DOE Study Plans, Revision 2 (March 10, 1993). The material submitted in the study plan was considered to be consistent, to the extent possible at this time, with the revised NRC-DOE "Level of Detail Agreement and Review Process for Study Plans" (Shelor to Holonich, March 22, 1993).

A major purpose of the review is to identify concerns with studies, tests, or analyses that, if started, could cause significant and irreparable adverse effects on the site, the site characterization program, or the eventual usability of the data for licensing. Such concerns would constitute objections, as that term has been used in earlier NRC staff reviews of DOE's documents related to site characterization (Consultation Draft Site Characterization Plan and the Site Characterization Plan for the Yucca Mountain site). It does not appear that the conduct of the activities described in this study plan will have adverse impacts on repository performance and the review of this study plan identified no objections with any of the activities proposed.

Among the references listed for this study is one that has not been provided to the NRC and is not readily available in the public domain. We therefore request that DOE provide the NRC with that reference which is listed in the Enclosure.

The NRC staff plans to provide DOE with detailed technical comments related to this study plan. Those comments will be transmitted at a later date, following the receipt of the requested reference.

080041
9304080213 930405
PDR WASTE PDR
WM-11

NH16/19
102-8
WM-11

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor

2

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Charlotte Abrams (301) 504-3403 of my staff.

Sincerely,

JS

Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance
Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
- T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee
- C. Gertz, DOE/NV
- S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
- D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
- D. Weigel, GAO
- P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV
- B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA
- V. Poe, Mineral County, NV
- F. Sperry, White Pine County, NV
- R. Williams, Lander County, NV
- L. Fiorenzi, Eureka County, NV
- L. Vaughan II, Esmeralda County, NV
- C. Shank, Churchill County, NV
- E. Holstein, Nye County, NV

DISTRIBUTION

CNRA	NMSS R/F	HLPD R/F	LSS
LPDR	ACNW	PDR	CENTRAL FILE
BJYoungblood, HLWM	JLinehan, HLWM	RBallard, HLGE	MFederline, HLHP
JHolonich, HLPD	On-Site Reps		

OFC	HLPD <i>E</i>	HLHP <i>RB</i>	HLHP <i>E</i>	HLHP <i>E</i>	HLHP <i>E</i>
NAME	CAbrams/dh	MRByrne	DEBros	MFederline	JHolonich
DATE	03/30/93	03/30/93	03/31/93	03/2/93	03/5/93

C = COVER E = COVER & ENCLOSURE N = NO COPY
G:\HYDROSP

NOT READILY AVAILABLE REFERENCE FOR STUDY PLAN 8.3.1.5.2.2

Konikow, L.F., 1978, Calibration of ground-water models, in Proceedings of the Specialty Conference on Verification of Mathematical and Physical Models in Hydraulic Engineering: American Society of Civil Engineers, College Park, Maryland, p. 87-93.

ENCLOSURE