



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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TO: John J. Linehan, Projector Director, Repository
Licensing Project Directorate (RLPD)
Division of High-Level Waste Management, M/S 4-H-3

FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative

DATE: October 28, 1988

SUBJECT: DOE WEEKLY REPORTS

Please find enclosed the above-referenced reports
received in this office, i.e., for weeks ending October 14 and
October 21, 1988.

PTP:nan
Enclosure
cc: King Stablein w/enc.

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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 98518

Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

WBS # 1.2.9.1.1

"QA: NA"

NNI.881026.0001

OCT 26 1988

Stephen H. Kale, Acting Associate Director, Facilities Siting and Development,
HQ (FW-20) FORS

YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 1988

I. Critical Items Status

A. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

The Integration Group (IG) continued drafting responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) point papers this week. The IG met in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 20-21, 1988, to continue development of responses and to begin the review and approval of these responses. The Project Review Group (PRG) will review and approve the responses at a meeting on October 24-25, 1988.

Production of the Statutory SCP continued this week. All of the text has been submitted into production. The Document Production Branch delivered the Concurrence Draft of the SCP to the printers on October 19, 1988, for delivery to the U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) on October 24, 1988.

Work continued this week on a PRG request for a white paper on the geophysics integration activity in the SCP. The outline for the white paper is due November 15, 1988.

SCP Study Plan Coordination

Fifteen draft Study Plans are currently in review. Study Plan 8.3.1.17.4.6, Quaternary faulting within the site area, was submitted to the Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office) for project review this week. One Study Plan is in project review prior to submittal for DOE/HQ review. Four Study Plans are undergoing revision by the participants. Four Study Plans have been submitted to DOE/HQ for review, and three Study Plans have been submitted to DOE/HQ for approval. Two Study Plans are in review at the NRC: (1) Excavation Investigations, Study 8.3.1.15.1.5, and (2) Water movement tracer tests using chloride and chlorine-36 measurements of percolation at Yucca Mountain, Study 8.3.1.2.2.2.

OCT 26 1988

SCP Study Plan Coordination cont'd.

The present status of Study Plans is as follows:

Quality Check	0
Project Review	2
Participant Revisions	4
Parallel PO & DOE/HQ Review	3
DOE/HQ Review Pending	1
DOE/HQ Approval Pending	3
NRC Review	2
Total	15

Approximately 25 Study Plans are currently in preparation at the participant level.

B. Core Sample Management

The boreholes inventoried at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Core Library currently consist of 99 boreholes; 79 boxes of cuttings; 239 boxes of core sealed in PVC pipe; 3,498 boxes of core; 128 waxed core samples; and 58 miscellaneous samples.

A total of 4,931 containers were tallied in the USGS-to-Sample Management Facility (SMF) transfer. To date, 81 percent (4,002 containers) have been inventoried, and 79 percent (3,876 containers) have been transferred to the SMF.

C. Quality Assurance (QA)

A surveillance covering the Project Office Records Management System was conducted. Surveillance Report No. WMPO-SR-88-010 has been prepared and forwarded to the Project Office for signature and distribution.

Revision 2 to the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations (NNWSI) Project QA Plan (NNWSI/88-9) is presently being finalized. This revision will incorporate resolution to NRC comments on NNWSI/88-9, Revision 1, as well as comments made by the participant QA Managers.

Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) 88-1, Revision 1, is presently pending the resolution of WMPO 88-1, Appendix H, and subsequent direction. Due to organizational changes, a letter has been sent to all Assistant Project Managers in Technical and Management Support Services (T&MSS) requesting their review of the organizational section of the manual.

OCT 26 1988

C. QA cont'd.

QA staff are revising the draft procedure "Methodology for Identifying Items and Activities of the Yucca Mountain Project" to satisfy recent instructions from DOE/HQ. This draft procedure is the first of five implementation documents for the DOE NUREG 1318 compliance plan. It is being redrafted as a methodology document.

Project QA staff and Project Control Branch staff met on October 17, 1988, to resolve the question of QA software on the Yucca Mountain Project.

D. Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF)

The development of the 100 percent Title I Technical Assessment Review Board Memorandum has been completed and printed. The Project Office began the initial distribution of the documents.

A methodology is under development to define the items and activities for the ESF Q-List Task Force. This methodology is one of five QA-level assignment methodology documents under development in order to satisfy the requirements of NUREG-1318.

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

The status of Project-level administrative procedures that are quality-related (APQs) is being monitored closely to ensure that they are in place to implement the fully qualified QA program. These procedures must be approved soon enough to allow training to be completed and, in some cases, to allow Project participants to complete their procedures and training. There are 14 APQs currently identified as necessary to start field activities, and 3 that are necessary to the fully qualified QA program, but not for the start of fieldwork. The Project is making a concerted effort to expedite the preparation and review process so that these APQs can be completed within a realistic schedule to comply with the fully qualified QA program deadline.

T&MSS staff continued to provide support to the Project Office for development and procurement of drilling and coring systems to satisfy the requirements of unsaturated zone hydrology studies. Meetings were held this week with the Project Office and the Nevada Test Site contractors to establish the schedule for prototype and multipurpose borehole drilling.

OCT 26 1988

The Hydrology and Geotechnical Branch supervised the development of an action plan, including staffing and budget requirements, for the provision of well site geology support and sample documentation by the T&MSS Sample Management Division. The Action plan was delivered to the Project Office on October 21, 1988.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) staff is preparing materials for the Waste Package Performance Assessment briefing that will be given on November 3 to the NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste.

LLNL's container/canister design information for the monitored retrievable storage system study, subtask E-1, E-3, and E-4, was submitted to the Project Office.

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) completed Milestone T-218, Yucca Mountain Data Catalog, and transmitted the Catalog to the Project Office. The Data Catalog is used by the NRC in accordance with the site-specific agreement.

The USGS abstract "Monitoring of Soil Gas Movement in the Vadose Zone Borehole at Yucca Mountain, Nevada" was approved by the Project Office for presentation at the December meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

The Management Overview Team (MOT) met on October 19, 1988, at SAIC to approve the final version of the activity description forms, prepare a status report on network development, and to hear a report from Working Integration Team 4 on the status of prerequisite planning.

Working Integration Teams (WIT) 2 and 3 met at SAIC on October 19, 1988. WIT 2 integrated with Los Alamos National Laboratory and SNL to discuss Long Range Planning network reviews. WIT 3 met to review preliminary networks. These networks were revised for finalization prior to submittal to the MOT. The networks are scheduled to be submitted to the MOT on November 3, 1988.

Holmes & Narver completed Milestone R573, Surface Engineering Studies, on October 18, 1988.

III. Upcoming Events

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
A.	<u>Coordinating Group Meetings</u>			
	Monday, October 24	Program Review Group Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	M. Blanchard Project Office
B.	<u>HQ Meetings</u>			
	None.			

OCT 26 1988

C. Internal Project and DOE/Nevada Operations Office (NV) Meetings

Thursday, October 27	Technical Project Officers Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Fiore SAIC
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D. State and Public Interaction

Tuesday, October 25	Project Manager, Presentation at Elko Town Meeting	Elko, NV	V. Davis Project Office
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Monday, November 7	Project Manager, Presentation to a Las Vegas Rotary Club	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
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Wednesday November 16	Project Manager, Presentation to the American Association of University Women	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
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Thursday November 17	Project Manager, Presentation at Goldfield Town Hall Meeting	Goldfield, NV	V. Davis Project Office
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Thursday, November 10	Nevada Nuclear Waste Study Committee's Las Vegas Forum on Nuclear Waste	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
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E. NRC Interaction

None.

F. Other

Sunday - Thursday, October 30 - November 3	Geological Society of America (Annual Meeting)	Denver, CO	R. Levich, C. Rehkop, Project Office
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YMP:SAC-318


Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Project Office



Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 98518

Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

WBS 1.2.9.1.1

QA: NA

OCT 18 1988

NN1.881018.0032

Stephen H. Kale, Acting Associate Director, Facilities Siting and Development,
HQ (FW-20) FORS

YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 1988

I. Critical Items Status

A. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

The Integration Group (IG) continued drafting responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) point papers. Present plans are to complete the draft on October 17, 1988. The IG will review and approve the responses in a meeting in Las Vegas on October 20-21, 1988. The Project Review Group will review and approve the responses at a meeting on October 24-25, 1988.

The briefing covering the treatment in the Statutory SCP of objections generated by the NRC on the Exploratory Shaft Facility from the NRC review of the Consultation Draft of the SCP was given to the U.S. Department of Energy/Headquarters (DOE/HQ) management on October 14, 1988, in Washington, D.C.

Production of the Statutory SCP continued this week. All of the text with the exception of Section 8.0 and the Introduction has been submitted for Phase I production. Of the SCP text in production, approximately 5 percent is in Phase I, 20 percent is in Phase II, and 75 percent is in Phase III production.

SCP Study Plan Coordination

No additional Study Plans were submitted to the Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office) for project review this week. DOE/HQ has initiated review of three project Study Plans: Study 8.3.1.5.2.1, Quaternary Regional Hydrology; Chemical and mineralogical changes in the post-emplacement environment, SCP, Section 8.3.4.2.4.1; and, Study 8.3.1.2.2.3, Characterization of percolation in the unsaturated zone — surface-based studies. Fourteen draft Study Plans are currently in review. One Study Plan is in project review prior to submittal for DOE/HQ review. Four Study Plans are undergoing revision by the participants. Four Study

OCT 18 1988

Plans have been submitted to DOE/HQ for review, and three Study Plans have been submitted to DOE/HQ for approval. Two Study Plans are in review at NRC: (1) Excavation Investigations, Study 8.3.1.15.1.5, and, (2) Water movement tracer tests using chloride and chlorine-36 measurements of percolation at Yucca Mountain, Study 8.3.1.2.2.2.

The present status of Study Plans is as follows:

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DOE/HQ Review	3
DOE/HQ Review Pending	1
DOE/HQ Approval Pending	3
NRC Review	2

Total 14

Approximately 25 study plans are in preparation at the participant level.

B. Core Sample Management

According to the latest USGS estimates, approximately 65 percent of all core samples have now been inventoried and relocated to Area 25. Those totals consist of 99 boreholes, 79 boxes of cuttings, 239 boxes of core sealed in PVC pipe, 3,360 boxes of core, 128 waxed core samples, and 58 miscellaneous samples.

C. Quality Assurance (QA)

The on-site investigative portion of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos) Audit (88-8) was concluded on October 7, 1988. The audit resulted in documentation of seventeen Standard Deficiency Reports (SDRs) and eleven observations thus far; the number may change if combinations are made or additional "effectiveness" SDRs are generated. Evaluation of effectiveness is continuing subsequent to the on-site interviewing process.

A surveillance was performed at Los Alamos to verify implementation of corrective actions necessary to close the deficiencies identified in the June 8, 1987, NRC Mini-Audit. Surveillance Report No. YMP-SR-88-018 was prepared and was forwarded to the Project Office for signature and issuance.

An audit will be conducted at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory October 24-28, 1988.

OCT 18 1988

D. Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF)

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) staff continues to prepare for the upcoming DOE/NRC meeting. This meeting, scheduled for November 15-17, will cover the Point Papers and major comments.

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc. completed two QA Level II milestones: P247, Installation of Sample Management Facility Equipment Required for Operational Tests, and P248, Installation of all Sample Management Facility Equipment.

Los Alamos completed Milestone T425, "Characterization of Reactive Tracers for C-Wells Field Experiments I: Electrostatic Sorption Mechanism, Lithium."

The Sandia National Laboratories abstract, SAND88-2247A, "Modeling the Uncertainties in the Parameter Values of a Layered, Variably Saturated Column of Volcanic Tuff Using the Beta Probability Distribution," was accepted for the symposium on Solving Groundwater Problems with Models, sponsored by the International Groundwater Modeling Center and the Association of Groundwater Scientists and Engineers.

A news conference was held by Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager, to announce the release in December of the Site Characterization Plan.

Also discussed were the two quaternary age volcanic centers recently discovered in the area of Yucca Mountain.

Scientists believe this new information, which was discovered by state-of-the-art techniques for studying volcanic landforms, does not affect the integrity of Yucca Mountain.

III. Upcoming Events

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A.		<u>Coordinating Group Meetings</u>		
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B.		<u>HQ Meetings</u>		
	None.			

OCT 18 1988

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C. <u>Internal Project and DOE/Nevada Operations Office (NV) Meetings</u>			
Wednesday - Thursday October 26-27	Technical Project Officers Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Fiore SAIC
D. <u>State and Public Interaction</u>			
Monday, November 7	Project Manager, Presentation to a Las Vegas Rotary Club	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
Wednesday November 16	Project Manager, Presentation to the American Association of University Women	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
Thursday November 17	Project Manager, Presentation at Goldfield Town Hall Meeting	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
Tuesday, October 25	Project Manager, Presentation at Elko Town Meeting	Elko, NV	V. Davis Project Office
Thursday, November 10	Nevada Nuclear Waste Study Committee's Las Vegas Forum on Nuclear Waste	Las Vegas, NV	V. Davis Project Office
E. <u>U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Interaction</u>			
Monday - Wednesday, October 17-19	DOE/NRC meeting on ESF	Washington, D.C.	M. Blanchard Project Office
Thursday - Friday, October 20-21	Integration Group— Review and Approval of NRC Point Papers	Golden, CO	D. Dobson Project Office
Sunday - Thursday, October 30 - November 3	Geological Society of America (Annual Meeting)	Denver, CO	R. Levich, C. Rehkop, Project Office


Stephen H. Kale

-5-

OCT 18 1988

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
F. <u>Other</u>			
Sunday - Friday October 30 - November 4	ANS/ENS International Conference	Washington, D.C.	V. Davis, Project Office

YMP:SAC-226



Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Project Office