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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 13, 1986

FOR: Robert E. Browning, Director

FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. OR - NNWSI

SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Reports

Attached are DOE weekly reports for the weeks ending March 6.

PTP/brm

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cc: JJLinehan
KStablein
SGBilhorn

WM Record File

102

WM Project 11

Docket No. _____

PDR

LPDR

Distribution:

KEB MJB	CFR MEK JTG
JOB DEM	Justus
(Return to Wm, 623-SS)	Linehan ✓
Bilhorn	Stablein ✓
Coplen	
Kennedy	

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PDR WASTE PDR
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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

MAR 07 1986

W. J. Purcell, Director, Office of Geologic Repositories, DOE/HQ (RW-20), FORS

NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 6, 1986

I. Issues Requiring Involvement of HQ or Other Projects

A. New Issues

None to report.

Previously Reported Issues:

Issue	Status	First Report Date
1. Request to Purcell asking OGR to formally solicit NRC concurrence with formal agreements between Albuquerque and San Francisco field offices. (86-392)	Due January 2, 1986 Stein's office requesting concurrence from NRC. Letter to NRC in concurrence at HQ as of 2/19.	12/19/85
2. Request for Stein to let Project know how long-term records are to be maintained. (86-386)	Due December 31, 1985 Open. Memo expected from Stein (Not received as of 2/19.)	12/19/85
3. Letter to Barrett dated December 24 requested which states are prepared to work in cooperative mode (informal agreement) with Transportation Department; also requested language that could be used in grant to the State in the area of transportation. (86-450)	Due January 13, 1986 Open. Philpott to call WMFO.	12/26/85
4. Letter to Stein dated December 18 requests that QA SOP-03-02 (Software Quality Assurance) be reviewed and approved for discussion at the January 14-15 QA Software Meeting in Las Vegas. (86-437)	Due January 14, 1986 Open. OGR is reviewing as of 2/19.	12/26/85

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5. Request for Benson to define when site characterization phase actually begins. (86-517) Due January 13, 1986 Awaiting memo from DOE/HQ confirming telcon with Benson. 01/15/86
6. Letter dated January 22 to Knight requests schedule for development of Office of Geologic Repositories (OGR) licensing information system. (86-585) Due February 12. Open. HQ reviewing as of 2/19. 01/30/86
7. Letter to Purcell dated January 27 requests OGR approval of NNWSI Project QA Plan (NVO-196-17, Rev. 4). (86-604) Due February 17. Open. Being reviewed as of 2/19. 01/30/86
8. Letter to Frei and Stein dated February 13 asks for guidance on how to address the difference between the NRC definition of the "engineered barrier" and the Program's baseline position. (86-714) Due March 6. 2/20/86
9. Letter to Knight dated February 13 requests clarification of proposed time frame for NRC Audit of WMPO before initiating site characterization; is it tied to a specific NWPA event? (86-715) Due March 6. 2/20/86
10. Letter to Knight dated February 19 requests a copy of the draft policy on validating data. (86-749) Due March 11. 2/20/86
11. Letter to Purcell dated February 19 requests guidance regarding compliance with the consultation and cooperation aspect of the NWPA during shipment of spent fuel. (86-753) Due March 13. 2/27/86

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12. Letter to Stein dated February 20 requests that Project be permitted to submit alternate ESF Concept as the reference case for budget validation. This concept was presented at budget meetings on January 31. (86-762) Due March 13. 2/27/86

II. Major Internal Concerns

None to report.

III. Significant Accomplishments (SA)/Information Items (II)

SA

The Department of Energy/Nevada Operations Office (DOE/NV) and the U.S. Air Force signed Amendment Number 5 to Permit No. DACA09-4-80-332 that provides the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations (NNWSI) Project formal access to the Air Force property. The amendment extends the NNWSI Project's access until February 1988.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has been considering a petition from the State of Nevada to clarify and enforce the mandate established in the December 2, 1985, decision in which the State believed the court awarded them the grant funding the Department rejected. On Wednesday, February 26, 1986, the court issued its decision that supported the Department's position.

The NNWSI Project Plan has been approved by DOE/HQ. The Plan may be baselined. It will be distributed on a controlled basis to Project participants, the State of Nevada, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on-site representative and DOE/HQ. A wider non-controlled distribution will be made to the standard NNWSI Project distribution list.

On March 4, a Site (WBS 1.2.3) integration meeting was held in Las Vegas. Participants attended from the Nevada Test Site contractors, the U.S. Geological Survey, Science Applications International Corporation, and the National Laboratories. They developed a plan for field investigations for the FY 1988 Work Package Proposed Authorization System submittal.

II

Over the following six-week period, the Project has scheduled about ten workshops to resolve issues strategy through performance allocation. All design and performance issues in the issues hierarchy will be addressed. Participants will include both manager and principle investigator levels. The focus will be to prepare for writing the Site Characterization Plan's Chapter 8.

A DOE/HQ Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) workshop was held in SAIC/Las Vegas offices on February 26-27, 1986, to discuss HQ's EMMP Annotated Table of Contents (ATC) prepared by Argonne National Laboratory. The site-specific EMMPs must be completed by the time the SCPs go public (January 1987). NNWSI Project must be sure that site characterization activities performed prior to EMMP completion satisfy any environmental compliance requirements. HQ requested a letter describing compliance activities. NNWSI Project will prepare a monitoring plan to cover site characterization activities prior to completion of the SCP. This plan will become the basis for the EMMP.

The Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) and Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) have started working closely with the State and local government staff to prepare the documents that deal with monitoring and potential mitigation requirements associated with site characterization. There needs to be a stronger conceptual tie in terms of projects, form, and content for these plans between the socioeconomic and environmental planner.

A television crew from Public Broadcasting System (PBS) KCTS of Seattle, Washington, has been in town all week developing a documentary story involving Yucca Mountain. The show is scheduled to air next fall. On Monday they went on a tour of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) with a standard tour group to see how the Department communicated its story. Alice Shillock with the Office of Public Affairs (OPA) conducted the tour. D. L. Vieth and Chris West will take the crew back to the NTS on Friday for a more indepth discussion of the experience and effort.

A letter has been prepared and will be sent next week to the Commerce-Business Daily announcing the solicitation for a Technical and Management Support Service contractor. The announcement states that the request for proposal will be issued on or about April 1, 1986.

IV. Upcoming Events

1. Coordination Group Meetings

- o Thursday-Friday, March 6-7: Waste Package Coordination Group, Tucson.
- o Monday-Wednesday, March 24-26: Transportation Coordination Group Meeting, Las Vegas.

2. HQ Meetings

- o Thursday-Friday, March 6-7: SCP Chapter 4 Review, D.C.
- o Tuesday-Thursday, March 11-13: ESF Workshop, Las Vegas.
- o Thursday-Friday, March 13-14: Copper Containers Meeting, Houston.
- o Wednesday, March 19: Information Management ADP Resources Steering Committee, Las Vegas.

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3. Internal Project and DOE/NV Meetings

- o Thursday-Friday, March 13-14: USNCTT Meeting, D.C.
- o Tuesday, March 18: DOE/NV Managers Meeting, Las Vegas.
- o Thursday, March 20: ESTP Committee Meeting, Las Vegas.
- o Monday, March 24: Risk Assessment Group Tour of NTS.
- o Monday-Wednesday, March 24-26: PM-TPO Meeting, Las Vegas.
- o Tuesday, April 8: SOC Meeting, NTS.

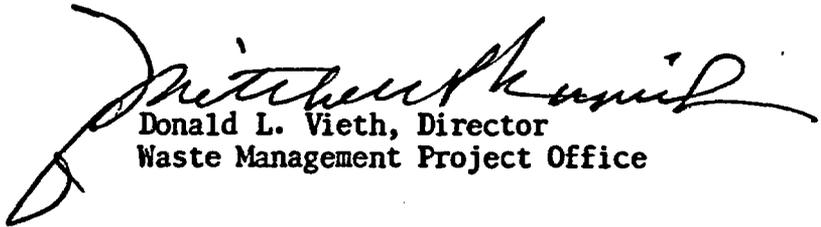
4. State and Public Interaction

- o Friday, March 7: Tour of NTS (Don Vieth), KCTS-TV, Seattle.
- o Monday-Tuesday, March 10-11: State Legislative Council Meeting, Las Vegas.
- o Monday-Friday, March 17-21: NNWA Short Course on Hydrology, Tucson.
- o Friday, March 21: Chamber of Commerce Speech, Las Vegas (Don Vieth).
- o Friday, March 21: Nevada Commission on Nuclear Projects (Don Vieth).
- o Tuesday-Thursday, April 8-10: Spent Fuel Storage Symposium, Seattle.

5. NRC Interaction

- o Wednesday-Thursday, February 19-20: NRC visit to WMPO, Las Vegas.

WMPO:WRD-836



Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office

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cc:

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