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

WM Record File

102

WM Project 11

Docket No. _____

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Reply to:
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Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
Tel: (702) 388-6125
FTS: 598-6125

TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director

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

DATE: April 14, 1987

SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Reports

Please find enclosed the above-referenced reports received in this office, i.e., for weeks ending April 3 and April 10, 1987.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

cc: J. J. Linehan
K. Stablein
S. Wastler

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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office
P. O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

APR 13 1987

Stephen H. Kale, Associate Director, Office of Geologic Repositories, DOE/HQ
(RW-20) FORS

NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 3, 1987

I. Critical Items Status

A. Stop-Work Orders

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)--The status of the five remaining Scientific Investigation Planning (SIP) documents and their associated Quality Assurance Level Assignments (QALAs) requiring Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) approval to rescind the stop-work provisions for these activities has not changed since the last Weekly Highlights Report, March 27, 1987.

SIPs approved by WMPO	5
SIPs in process	5

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)--There are five conditions for lifting the stop-work order on technical and scientific activities. These conditions are as follows:

1. WMPO approval of the proposed USGS audit finding corrective actions,
2. Indoctrination and training of personnel,
3. WMPO approval of the USGS Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) in response to the audit findings,
4. Quality assurance (QA) resource plan, and
5. WMPO approval of SIPs and the associated QALAs.

The USGS has satisfied conditions 1-4. Hence, the stop-work order will be lifted incrementally with WMPO approval of the SIPs and QALAs.

SIPs approved by WMPO	2
SIPs submitted to WMPO for approval	1
SIPs in process for current investigation	35
SIPs in process for future investigation	10

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Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)--Nineteen of the SAIC activities have approved SIP and QALA documents. Only one SIP and its associated QALA remain to be approved. Approval of the remaining document is anticipated by April 10, 1987, to rescind the stop-work order.

B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

A draft summary of the performance allocation workshops was distributed on March 25. Corrections and revisions were requested.

Guidance was also distributed on changes in terminology in the SCP.

Revisions to data chapters are to be made per agreements reached at U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Headquarters (HQ) comment resolution meetings. Revisions are due to SAIC no later than two weeks after the end of the HQ comment resolution meeting. Revised chapters will then be reviewed by the reference verification team and technical editing before approval for production by appropriate technical and Project staff.

Action plans are being prepared that describe how major revisions to Chapter 8 will be accomplished and define a schedule for the revision effort. Work is continuing on development and prioritization of study plans; an agreement needs to be reached on the Project review process for the study plans. Reference verification is continuing as well as work on the SCP glossary.

The HQ comment resolution meeting on Issues 1.4, 1.5, and 1.10 (waste package performance and engineered barrier system containment) took place at Livermore, California, on March 24 and 25. The Permanent Overview Committee meeting on these issues took place March 26.

A performance allocation workshop to establish the links between the waste package issues and the performance assessment and characterization issues was held at Livermore, California, on March 27.

HQ comment resolution meetings on Chapters 2, 3, and 4 took place at HQ this week.

Chapters 1, 5, and 7 were the subject of comment resolution meetings the week of March 30 at HQ.

Chapter 6 is not expected to be reviewed by HQ until the third week of May. This could potentially cause problems in meeting the August 21 publication date.

HQ has questioned the appropriateness of using abstracts as references in the SCP. About 50 abstracts are referenced in the SCP containing important information not currently available except in abstract form.

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I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

The following concerns have been reported previously on Weekly Highlights reports:

Issue	Status	First Report Date
1. Letter to Knight dated March 25 requests HQ help in obtaining available U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) information regarding criteria, restrictions, and analyses relating to overflight of licensed facilities by aircraft. (86-958)	Due May 6, 1986 Office of Geologic Repositories (OGR) action delayed due to higher priority issues (12/16/87 update).	03/27/86
2. January 22 letter to Stein transmits final version of letter report describing ongoing and planned site characterization activities. Requests approval to provide copies to State of Nevada (NV) at January 23 meeting. (87-749)	Due January 22, 1987	01/23/87
3. December 22 letter to Alexander requesting clarification of the Study Plan Review (87-844).	Due January 5, 1987	01/30/87
4. Letter to Alexander dated March 12 requests comment resolution workshops on Chapters 1 through 7 of the Project SCP. (87-1149)	Due April 2, 1987	04/03/87
5. Letter to Gale dated March 26 requests what action was taken in providing the disk containing Chapters 2-6 for the EA to the state of MS. (87-1236)	Due April 16, 1987	04/03/8
6. Letter to Kale dated March 10 requests guidance on how to respond to the state of Nevada with regard to Grant Awards. (87-1138)	Due March 31, 1987	04/03/87

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7. Letter to Kale dated March 11 transmits state of Nevada comments on the NNWSI Project EM&MP. Requests support in response to these comments. (87-1139) Due April 1, 1987 04/03/87
8. Letter to Kale dated March 12 requests review and guidance of LANL revised view of age of cinder cone at Lathrop Wells. (87-1146) Due March 24, 1987 04/03/87
9. Letter to Kale dated March 26 requests review of the OGR WBS Revision (OGR/B-4). (87-1234) Due April 1, 1987 04/03/87
10. Letter to Knight dated March 25 requests criteria, restrictions, or analyses related to transportation of highly radioactive material. (87-958) Due May 6, 1986 04/03/87
11. Letter to Knight dated March 16 requests guidance within the context of Licensing and Quality Assurance on handling errors uncovered in data revisions. (87-1172) Due March 18, 1987 04/03/87
12. Letter to Marks dated March 23 requests a list and short explanation of C&C items which have been brought up by the affected parties at workshops and meetings. (87-1209) Due April 13, 1987 04/03/87
13. Letter to Smith dated March 10 requests the reference in the Procurement/ Contracting rules where a discussion of the Interface Agreements can be found. (87-1133) Due March 26, 1987 04/03/87
14. Letter to Stein dated January 20 requests approval to provide copies of the Final Version of the 15-20 page letter report to the state of Nevada on January 23, 1987. (87-749) Due January 22, 1987

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16. Letter to Stein dated March 10 requests review and comment on revised background paper for meeting with the NRC. (87-1134) Due March 11, 1987 04/03/87

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Representatives of DOE/NV, WMPO, and SAIC accompanied Nye County, Nevada, officials and others on a tour of the Waste Isolation Pilot Program in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Sandia National Laboratories submitted the report entitled "Rock Joint Compliance Studies" (Milestone N496) to WMPO for policy review.

Two Los Alamos National Laboratory reports were submitted to WMPO for policy review: "Preliminary Report on the Statistical Evaluation of Sorption Data: Sorption as a Function of Mineralogy, Temperature, Time, and Particle Size" (Milestone R311) and "Anion Exclusion in Yucca Mountain Tuff" (Milestone R313).

The 22 baselined Level 2 milestones in the Project Data Base related to the draft SCP have been given a completion date of January 14, the date the draft was delivered to DOE/HQ.

On Friday, April 3, Don Vieth spoke to the Henderson Republican Men's Club. He also gave a presentation to the Las Vegas Food Sales Club on Tuesday, March 31.

III. Upcoming Events

A. Coordinating Group Meetings

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	Quality Assurance Coordinating Group	Washington, D.C.	J. Blaylock, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28-29	Transportation Coordi- nating Group	Salt Lake City, Utah	E. Lundgaard WMPO

B. HQ Meetings

1.	Monday-Friday, April 6-10	Government Account- ing Office audit	Las Vegas	D. Shipley WMPO
2.	Friday, April 10	Exploratory Shaft Facility Validation meeting	Washington, D.C.	D. Irby, WMPO
3.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 15-16	Waste Package/Repos- itory Coordination meeting	Livermore, CA	L. Skousen, WMPO
4.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	Fracture Flow Workshop	Washington, D.C.	M. Blanchard, WMPO

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Stephen H. Kale

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5. Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28-29 Budget Issue Resolution meeting Washington, D.C. D. Shipley, WMPO

Date

Event

Location

Contact

C. Internal Project and NV Meetings

1. Monday, April 6 NRC/Exploratory Shaft Facility - Dry Run Las Vegas D. Irby, WMPO

2. Thursday-Friday, April 9-10 Project QA Managers' meeting Las Vegas J. Blaylock, WMPO

3. Monday-Thursday, April 13-16 QASC audit of Holmes & Narver Las Vegas J. Blaylock, WMPO

4. Tuesday-Friday, April 21-24 Preclosure Risk Assessment Methodology Working Group Richland, WA J. Robson, WMPO

5. Tuesday, April 21 DOE/NV Manager's Meeting Las Vegas B. West, WMPO

6. Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23 PM-TPO Meeting Las Vegas J. Fiore, SAIC

7. Monday-Friday, April 27-May 1 QASC audit of LLNL Livermore, CA J. Blaylock, WMPO

D. State and Public Interaction

1. None to report.

E. NRC Interaction

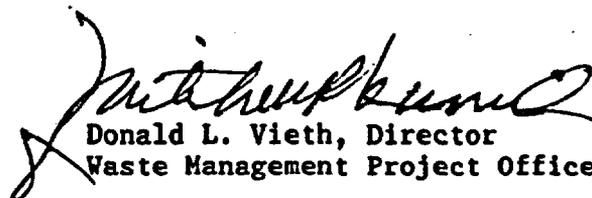
1. Tuesday-Wednesday, April 14-15 NRC/NNWSI Project Exploratory Shaft Facility meeting Las Vegas D. Irby, WMPO

2. Thursday, April 16 NRC/NNWSI Project Pre-mini-audit meeting Los Alamos NM J. Szymanski, WMPO

F. Other

1. None to report.

WMPO:WRD-1397


Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office



Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

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APR 10 1987

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(RW-20) FORS

NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 10, 1987

I. Critical Items Status

A. Stop-Work Orders

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SIPs approved by WMPO	5
SIPs in process	5

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4. Quality Assurance (QA) resource plan, and
5. WMPO approval of SIPs and the associated QALAs.

The USGS has satisfied conditions 1-4. Hence, the stop-work order will be lifted incrementally with WMPO approval of the SIPs and QALAs.

SIPs approved by WMPO	3
SIPs submitted to WMPO for approval	0
SIPs in process for current investigation	35
SIPs in process for future investigation	10

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Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)--The final SIP and QALA were approved, thus rescinding the stop work condition on SAIC.

B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

The schedule and review process for revising Chapters 1 through 7 has been distributed; revisions resulting from the reference verification process and technical edit will be added to revisions resulting from the HQ review. Final approval of the compiled markup will be done by SAIC and other Project participants. A camera-ready version is expected to be sent to Headquarters (HQ) at the end of June for final concurrence review.

Work is continuing on revisions to Section 8.3; these will be sent to HQ about May 22 for the second QA review. Comment resolution meetings for Section 8.3 revisions are tentatively scheduled for the first two weeks of June. A waste package draft text review meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. during the week of April 20. No official comment tracking/resolution is planned.

Work is continuing toward linking parameters called for by performance and design issues to parameters provided by characterization programs.

Logic diagrams are being prepared for each issue and program and a process is being developed for Project review of the diagrams in parallel with the HQ review. Work is continuing on several activities, including the following: preparation of Section 8.5 (Schedules and Milestones), preparation of the SCP Glossary, and reference verification.

I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

The following concerns have been reported previously on Weekly Highlights reports.

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5. Letter to Stein dated March 10 requests review and comment on revised background paper for meeting with the NRC. (87-1134)	Due March 11, 1987	04/03/87
6. Letter to Kale dated March 10 requests guidance on how to respond to the state of Nevada with regard to Grant Awards. (87-1138)	Due March 31, 1987	04/03/87
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13. Letter to Gale dated March 26 requests what action was taken in providing the disk containing Chapters 2-6 for the EA to the state of MS. (87-1236)	Due April 16, 1987	04/03/87

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

The Quality Assurance Support Contractor (QASC) audit of Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos) (the first of the fiscal year) was completed. The audit resulted in the identification of eleven deficiencies which will be documented on Standard Deficiency Reports. In addition, ten observations and four recommendations will also be documented. The audit report will be issued by May 1, 1987.

SAIC and USGS staff met to discuss the program of coring and sampling in the Unsaturated Zone. Topics included the need for sample archiving for long-term storage and concerns regarding core size as it relates to equipment availability and costs.

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A G-Tunnel Prototype Test meeting was held at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). Principal Investigators (PIs) and other Project personnel were able to coordinate activities and investigate various aspects of the G-Tunnel facility.

A Government Accounting Office (GAO) audit is in progress, concentrating on the SCP and development of plans for site characterization.

Mitch Kunich (WMPO) conducted a tour of the NTS for personnel from the GAO.

The draft Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan has been revised and was sent to HQ for approval.

Los Alamos submitted the report entitled "Geochemistry Simulation of Yucca Mountain: Modeling the Transport of Uranium and Technetium through the Unsaturated Tuffs" (Milestone M325) to the WMPO for policy review.

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) submitted the following six reports to the WMPO for policy review:

1. "Sensitivity Analyses of Underground Drift Temperature, Stresses, and Safety Factors to Variation in the Rock Mass Properties of Tuff for a Nuclear Waste Repository Located at Yucca Mountain, Nevada" (Milestone P216).
2. "Petrologic and Mechanical Properties of Outcrop Samples of the Welded, Devitrified Topopah Spring Member of the Paintbrush Tuff" (Milestone N429).
3. "Simple Models of the Saturated Zone at Yucca Mountain" (Milestone M180).
4. "Definitions of Reference Boundaries for the Underground Facilities, Disturbed Zone, Geologic Repository Operations Area, Restricted Area, Controlled Area, and Accessible Environment" (Milestone R790).
5. "Excavations Investigations Study Plan" (Milestone T067).
6. "A Technique for the Geometric Modeling of Underground Surfaces" (Milestone R079).

In addition to the previously mentioned items, SNL has submitted an updated version of the NNWSI Project Systems Engineering Management Plan to the WMPO for approval, in fulfillment of Milestone M293.

The WMPO has sent an SNL report entitled "Summary of Geomechanical Measurements Taken in and Around the G-Tunnel Underground Facility, NTS" to HQ for informational purposes. This report is the end-product completing the HQ-controlled Milestone M455.

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Stephen H. Kale

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III. Upcoming Events

A. Coordinating Group Meetings

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	Quality Assurance Coordinating Group	Washington, DC	J. Blaylock, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28-29	Transportation Coord- inating Group	Salt Lake City, UT	B. Barner, WMPO

B. HQ Meetings

1.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 15-16	Waste Package/Repos- itory Coordination meeting	Livermore, CA	L. Skousen, WMPO
2.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	Fracture Flow Workshop	Washington, DC	M. Blanchard, WMPO
3.	Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28-29	Budget Issue Reso- lution meeting	Washington, DC	D. Shipley, WMPO
4.	Tuesday-Wednesday, May 12-13	SCP Chapter 6 meeting	Washington, DC	

C. Internal Project and NV Meetings

1.	Tuesday-Thursday, April 14-16	Systems Engineering Integration Group meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Robson, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Friday, April 21-24	Preclosure Risk Assessment Method- ology Working Group	Richland, WA	J. Robson, WMPO
3.	Tuesday, April 21	DOE/NV Manager's meeting	Las Vegas, NV	B. West, WMPO
4.	Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	PM-TPO meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Fiore, SAIC
5.	Monday-Friday, April 27-May 1	QASC audit of LLNL	Livermore, CA	J. Blaylock, WMPO
6.	Tuesday May 5	Sample Overview Committee meeting	Las Vegas, NV	U. Clanton, WMPO

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Stephen H. Kale

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D. State and Public Interaction

1. None to report.

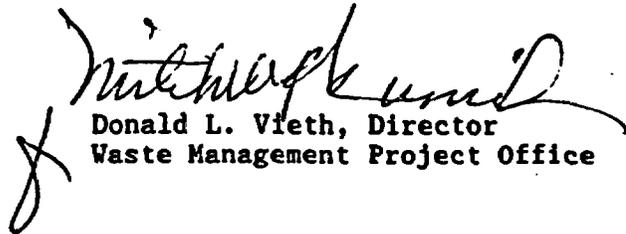
E. NRC Interaction

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1. Tuesday-Wednesday, April 14-15	NRC/NNWSI Project Exploratory Shaft Facility meeting	Las Vegas, NV	D. Irby, WMPO
2. Thursday, April 15	NRC/NNWSI Project Pre-mini-audit meeting	Los Alamos, NM	J. Szymanski, WMPO

F. Other

1. None to report.

WMPO:WRD-1458


Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office