



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

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TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director  
FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative  
DATE: March 27, 1987  
SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Report

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report received in this office, i.e., for week ending March 30, 1987.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

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

WM Record File

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WM Project 11

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

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## Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

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MAR 25 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 MARCH 20, 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 13, 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 provisions will be lifted incrementally with WMPO approval of the SIPs and QALAs.

1. SIPs approved by WMPO	2
SIPs submitted to WMPO for approval	1
SIPs in process for current investigation	33
SIPs in process for future investigation	10

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 March 27, 1987, to rescind the stop-work order.

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B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Headquarters (HQ) comment resolution meeting for Sections 8.4 and 8.7 was completed March 11. The sections will be revised and reviewed on the same schedule as Section 8.3.

Chapter 8 terminology related to issues and information needs is changing to conform more closely to HQ guidance provided at the May 7-8, 1986, level of detail meeting with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). A waste package meeting to discuss revisions for Section 8.3.4 was held March 10-12 at LLNL.

Chapters 1-7 will be revised and finalized before the second round of Chapter 8 comment resolution workshops.

Summaries of the HQ workshops (February 17-March 6) are being drafted and will be distributed when available. An alternative schedule for final SCP development and distribution has been proposed, delaying the publication date to October 1, 1987. The schedule will be discussed by Project and HQ management. Revisions to various parts of Section 8.3 are continuing on the schedule presented at the HQ workshops. Work is continuing on development of study plans that must be available when the SCP is published.

HQ comment resolution workshops for Chapters 1-7 have been proposed for March 23 through April 3.

C. Waste Package Strategy Document

A revised draft that was submitted to HQ and WMPO in January is being reviewed by HQ staff.

I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

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

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>First Report Date</u>
1. Letter to Knight dated March 25 requests HQ help in obtaining available 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

Issue	Status	First Report Date
2. Letter to Stein requests a briefing be given on November 4 to Nevada Operations Office management by Resource Technology, Inc., concerning their recommendations on drilling activities for the nuclear waste isolation program. (87-252)	Final report will be completed shortly; meeting with management may not be necessary. Meeting has been postponed indefinitely (2/10/87).	10/24/86
3. 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 at January 23 meeting. (87-749)	Due January 22, 1987.	01/23/87
4. December 22 letter to Alexander requesting clarification of the Study Plan Review (87-844).	Due January 5, 1987.	01/30/87
5. January 14 letter to Stein transmitting the NNWSI Project SCP to the OGR for review. (87-845)	Due February 27, 1987. Stein reply of 2/9/87 approves release of SCP Chapters 1-7 to NRC, USGS, State of Nevada, and affected Indian Tribes as information copies.	01/30/87

## II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Mitchell Kunich attended a town hall meeting in Hawthorne, Nevada, on Thursday, March 19.

Participants in a workshop on geohydrology that was held in Las Vegas on March 11, toured Yucca Mountain and G-Tunnel on March 10.

WMPO has issued Revision 5 of the NNWSI Project QA Plan for implementation.

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Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos) submitted a draft of the report "Smectite Dehydration and Stability: Applications to Radioactive Waste Isolation at Yucca Mountain, Nevada" to WMPO for review. This report meets Level II Milestone R323.

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) submitted Milestone R890, the fiscal year 1987 schedule of external and internal QA audits to be conducted by SNL.

On March 12, Fenix & Scission, Inc. submitted the Exploratory Shaft Facility Ventilation Study Report No. 6 to WMPO and Project participants for review and comment.

Los Alamos submitted Milestone R313, the report "Anion Exclusion in Yucca Mountain Tuff," to WMPO for policy review.

The 1989 Work Package Proposal Authorization System was submitted to DOE/HQ on March 14, 1987.

At a Project-wide Performance Allocation meeting in Albuquerque this week, the participants have been able to develop good links between design/performance requirements and expected results from site characterization for some issues. It is more likely that these meetings will determine the scope of the performance allocation problem than resolve the problem. The meetings continue throughout next week.

### 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
<b>B. <u>HQ Meetings</u></b>			
1. Wednesday, March 25	OGR Licensing Support Systems (LSS) Task Group	Washington, D.C.	K. Hatch, WMPO
2. Tuesday-Friday, March 31-April 3	SCP Chapter 7 meeting	Washington, D.C.	D. Alexander, WMPO
3. Friday, April 10	Exploratory Shaft Facility Validation meeting	Washington, D.C.	D. Irby, WMPO
4. Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	Fracture Flow Workshop	Washington, D.C.	M. Blanchard, WMPO

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
<b>C. <u>Internal Project and NV Meetings</u></b>			
1. Monday-Friday, March 23-27	SCP Performance Allocation Workshop	Albuquerque, NM	M. Blanchard, WMPO
2. Wednesday-Thursday, March 25-26	PM-TPO meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC
3. Thursday-Friday, March 26-27	Milestone and net- working meeting	Albuquerque, NM	N. Morley, WMPO
4. Monday-Friday, March 30-April 3	QA audit at Los Alamos	Los Alamos, NM	J. Blaylock, WMPO
5. Tuesday, April 7	Sample Overview Committee Meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
6. Monday-Thursday, April 13-16	QASC audit of Holmes & Narver	Las Vegas	J. Blaylock, WMPO
7. Monday, April 20	Preclosure Risk Assessment Method- ology Working Group	Richland, WA	J. Robson, WMPO
8. Tuesday, April 21	DOE/NV Manager's Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
9. Wednesday-Thursday, April 22-23	PM-TPO Meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC
<b>D. <u>State and Public Interaction</u></b>			
1. Monday-Tuesday, March 23-24	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant tour for Nye County residents	NTS, NV	D. Vieth/ M. Kunich, WMPO
2. Sunday-Thursday, March 29-April 2	American Nuclear Society Conference	Pasco, WA	L. Skousen, WMPO
3. Friday, April 3	Henderson Republican Men's Club	Henderson, NV	D. Vieth, WMPO

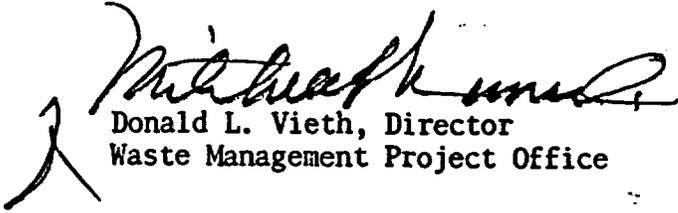
MAR 25 1987

Stephen H. Kale

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
E. <u>NRC Interaction</u>			
1. None to report.			
F. <u>Other</u>			
1. None to report.			

WMPO:WRD-1281

  
Donald L. Vieth, Director  
Waste Management Project Office

cc:

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