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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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WM, Project 11
Docket No. _____
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TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director

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

DATE: March 20, 1987

SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Report

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report received in this office, i.e., for week ending March 13, 1987.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

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

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MAR 16 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 13, 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 10, 1987.

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|-----------------------|---|
| 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 status of these five conditions is as follows:

1. WMPO has accepted all proposed corrective actions,
2. USGS has been training personnel since November 1986, and all training should be substantially complete by March 1987,
3. WMPO approved the USGS QAPP during October 1986,
4. The QA resource plan submitted on February 10, 1987, is under review by WMPO. Comments on the plan will be transmitted to the USGS next week.

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| 5. 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 associate QALA remain to be approved. Approval of the remaining document is anticipated by March 20, 1987, to rescind the stop-work order.

B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

Activities at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Headquarters (HQ) comment resolution workshop for Section 8.3 of the SCP included discussion of:

1. Open issues having schedule impacts;
2. Site Characterization Overview Committee review of each issue and comments requiring management's attention; and
3. A sign-off for each issue indicating HQ agreement with the proposed revision schedules for the issues and with the workshop agreements in terms of required revisions.

Revisions to various sections of 8.3 will continue on the schedule that workshop leaders presented at the HQ workshop. Data received from participants on activity interfaces in Section 8.3 are currently being put into the data base for use in Section 8.5. Reference verification is continuing.

A meeting was held with HQ management on March 6, 1987, to discuss development of a new success-oriented schedule for the SCP. Due to changes required in Section 8.3, another review cycle will be scheduled. The SCP is not expected to be released to the public until Fall 1987.

A waste package meeting (Section 8.3.4) was held on March 10, at Livermore, CA. Workshops are planned from March 16-27 in Albuquerque to complete performance allocation for design and performance issues, and to mature characterization issue linkages and parameter tables. An HQ comment resolution meeting on Sections 8.4 and 8.7 was held in Las Vegas March 10-11.

I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

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

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| Issue | Status | First Report Date |
|---|--|-------------------|
| 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 |
| 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. Letter dated November 10 to Newton requests clarification of three areas in minutes of July 23-24, 1986, QACG meeting: 1) phasing of NQA-1 1986 into Project QA plans; 2) interpretation of QA administrative procedures; and 3) references to State and tribes and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) participating on DOE audits. (87-404) | Due December 8, 1986. | 11/14/86 |
| 4. 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 |

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Stephen H. Kale

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| <u>Issue</u> | <u>Status</u> | <u>First Report Date</u> |
|--|--|--------------------------|
| 5. December 22 letter to Alexander requesting clarification of the Study Plan | Due January 5, 1987. | 01/30/87 |
| 6. 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 |
| 7. Letter to Alexander inquires whether HQ will distribute SCP Chapters 1-7 to the NRC, USGS, States, and affected Indian Tribes or if that task is assigned to the NNWSI Project. (87-1060) | Due March 13, 1987 | 03/06/87 |

Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

At Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos), preparation of detailed prototype test plans (M253) is underway.

SAIC is making final arrangements to allow the state of Nevada to gain modem access to the NNWSI Project News Clippings Data Base.

Project participants attended an Appendix 7 meeting with NRC representatives at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) to discuss the Repository Conceptual Design Report.

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

SAIC submitted the preliminary draft Environmental Regulatory Compliance Plan to WMPO for transmittal to DOE/HQ.

The state of Nevada comments on the Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan were received this week. SAIC staff members are analyzing the comments and preparing responses.

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III. Upcoming EventsA. Coordinating Group Meetings

| | <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Contact</u> |
|----|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Wednesday-Thursday, March 15-16 | Quality Assurance Coordinating Group | Washington, D.C. | J. Blaylock, WMPO |

B. HQ Meetings

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|----|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Tuesday-Wednesday, March 17-18 | Repository Design meeting | Washington, D.C. | T. Zvada, WMPO |
| 2. | Tuesday-Wednesday, March 17-18 | OGR Licensing Support Systems (LSS) Task Group | Washington, D.C. | K. Hatch, WMPO |
| 3. | Thursday-Friday, March 19-20 | OGR Budget Meeting | Denver, CO | W. Dixon, WMPO |

C. Internal Project and NV Meetings

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|----|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Monday-Friday, March 16-20 | SCP Performance Allocation Workshop (tentative) | Albuquerque, NM | M. Blanchard, WMPO |
| 2. | Tuesday, March 17 | NV Manager's meeting | Las Vegas | B. West, WMPO |
| 3. | Tuesday-Thursday, March 17-19 | Systems Engineering Integration Group meeting | Denver, CO | J. Robson, WMPO |
| 4. | Monday-Friday, March 23-27 | SCP Performance Allocation Workshop (tentative) | Albuquerque, NM | M. Blanchard, WMPO |
| 5. | Wednesday-Thursday, March 25-26 | PM-TPO meeting | Las Vegas | J. Fiore, SAIC |
| 6. | Monday-Friday, March 30-April 3 | QA audit at Los Alamos | Los Alamos, NM | J. Blaylock, WMPO |
| 7. | Tuesday, April 7 | Sample Overview Committee Meeting | Las Vegas | U. Clanton, WMPO |

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| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Contact</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 8. Monday-Thursday, April 13-16 | QASC audit of Holmes & Narver | Las Vegas | J. Blaylock, WMPO |

D. State and Public Interaction

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|---|---|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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 |

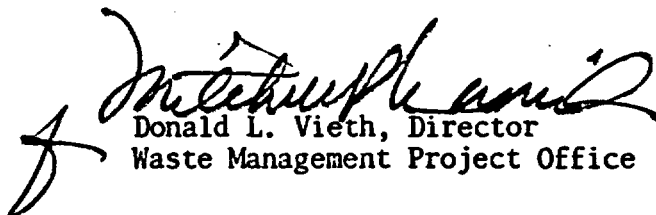
E. NRC Interaction

1. None to report.

F. Other

1. None to report.

WMPO:WRD-1199


 Donald L. Vieth, Director
 Waste Management Project Office