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LPDR- WM-11 (2)

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: July 31, 1987  
SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Report

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report received in this office, i.e., for week ending July 17, 1987.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

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

WM Record File 102 WM Project 11  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
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WM Record File: 102  
LPDR w/encl

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## Department of Energy

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JUL 29 1987

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

### NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 17, 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 is as follows:

SIPs approved by WMPO	5
SIPs in process	5

Three of the SIPs in progress have been submitted to WMPO for review. The review date is not yet scheduled, but will occur during July.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)--The four generic conditions identified for rescinding the stop-work order on technical and scientific activities have been satisfied. Hence, the lifting of the stop-work order is now incremental with the WMPO approval of the SIPs and associated QALAs. The status of the SIPs and QALAs is as follows:

SIPs approved by WMPO	3
SIPs submitted to WMPO for review/approval	28
SIPs in process for current investigations	23

Six of the SIPs in process have been submitted to WMPO for review. No tentative review has been scheduled as yet.

##### B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

Comment resolution of remaining sections of SCP Chapter 8 have been closed out with the completion of U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters (DOE/HQ) comment resolution workshops. Final SCP Overview Committee agreements were achieved during the workshops relative to sections 8.2 and 8.5, and both sections are undergoing revision in preparation for a concurrence review by DOE/HQ staff prior to incorporation into the final concurrence draft of the SCP. Aside from Sections 8.2 and 8.5, the SCP text is currently in final production at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).



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A recent agreement between DOE/HQ and the WMPO relative to the definition of prototype tests or activities will impact the current text of the SCP. Thus, various project participants have been requested to visit SAIC in Las Vegas, Nevada, to modify the effected text.

The schedule for study plan preparation is being revised to be consistent with the SCP production schedule.

**C. Core Sample Management**

The Sample Management Facility (SMF) staff completed a prototype of the proposed data-base structure for all sample handling in the SMF and reviewed the SMF records handling procedures with the Information Management System staff. Reviews of final Title II design drawings for Warehouse #2 have also been completed.

**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, 1986, 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 20 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
3. 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

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Issue	Status	First Report Date
4. 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
5. Letter to Kale, dated April 30, requests expeditious final approval of NNWSI Project Quality Assurance (QA) Plan, NVO-196-17, Revision 5. (87-1477)	Due May 20, 1987	05/08/87
6. Letter to Stein, dated May 18, requests a choice be made between two schedules of cost estimates for programs described in SCP, Section 8.3. (87-1600)	Due June 2, 1987	05/22/87
7. Letter to Knight, dated June 1, addresses a concern relative to the Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos) Mineralogy/Petrology program audit. Clarification is requested on the concept of evaluating "technical adequacy." (87-1694)	Due June 5, 1987	06/05/87
8. Letter to Cerny, dated June 23, 1987, transmitted a draft of the NNWSI Project Information Management System Bridge Program Test Plan for review. (87-1884)	Due July 15, 1987	07/03/87

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Issue	Status	First Report Date
9. Letter to Alexander, dated July 1 expresses a desire to complete quality checks to review comment resolutions for SCP Chapters 1 and 3 by July 8. Included is a suggestion that one representative from the OGR and one from a contractor assist the WMPO. (87-1990)	Due July 1, 1987	07/10/87

## II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

A reorganization of the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Operations Office (DOE/NV) was announced this week. Significant changes include the following:

1. The WMPO reports directly to the Office of the Manager of DOE/NV.
2. D. L. Vieth is reassigned to be Acting Deputy Assistant Manager in the Office of Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety, and Health.
3. The position of Director, WMPO, is currently vacant on the organization chart. M. P. Kunich, Deputy Director, WMPO, is detailed as Acting Director, WMPO.

Other DOE/NV organizational changes were also announced that do not affect the program.

Don Vieth and Environmental staff visited San Francisco on July 13 to meet with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of this meeting (the first of its kind) was (1) to open communications with the EPA and establish contacts between that agency and the NNWSI Project relative to technical matters, (2) to introduce EPA staff to various aspects of the high-level radioactive waste disposal issue, (3) to discuss current and planned NNWSI Project site characterization activities, and (4) to investigate environmental regulatory compliance issues.

Don Vieth appeared on a local television interview program ("A.M. Southern Nevada") on July 16 to discuss aspects of the NNWSI Project.

Fenix & Scisson, Inc. (F&S) has reported their submittal, to the WMPO, of Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) Special Study Report No. 5 (Revision No. 1), "ESF Hoisting System". F&S has also transmitted the Proposed Layout for Excavation Effects Test to the WMPO.

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A Government Accounting Office (GAO) audit was conducted on July 9 and 10. The GAO auditors, commissioned by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, were interested in the projected budgets for site characterization since 1981. An additional GAO audit of the NNWSI Project will be conducted during the last week of July. This subsequent audit will involve providing answers to questions relative to regulatory and institutional issues and may not include a visit by the audit team.

### III. Upcoming Events

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
<b>A. <u>Coordinating Group Meetings</u></b>				
1.	Tuesday, July 21	First NNWSI Project Waste Package/ Repository Design Interface meeting	Las Vegas, NV	D. Irby, WMPO
<b>B. <u>HQ Meetings</u></b>				
1.	Tuesday-Wednesday July 21-22	Joint LSS/IMS Admin. Tracking Task Group	Washington, DC	K. Hatch, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Thursday July 21-23	ISCG meeting	Seattle, WA	E. Lundgaard, WMPO
<b>C. <u>Internal Project and NV Meetings</u></b>				
1.	Tuesday, July 21	DOE/NV Manager's meeting	Las Vegas, NV	B. West, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Friday July 21-24	Licensing training	Various locations	J. Szymanski, WMPO
3.	Monday-Tuesday July 27-28	Project Manager Technical Project Officers (PM-TPO) meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Fiore, SAIC
4.	Tuesday-Friday July 28-31	QA audit, F&S	Tulsa, OK	J. Blaylock, WMPO
5.	Tuesday, August 4	Sample Overview Committee meeting	Las Vegas, NV	U. Clanton, WMPO
6.	Thursday, August 6	QA Manager's Meeting	Livermore, CA	J. Blaylock, WMPO

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
7. Monday-Friday August 10-14	QA Audit at USGS	Denver, CO & Menlo Park, CA	J. Blaylock, WMPO
8. Wednesday-Thursday August 19-20	PM-TPO meeting	Las Vegas, NV	J. Fiore, SAIC

D. State and Public Interaction

None to report

E. NRC Interaction

None to report.

F. Other

None to report.

WMPO:WRD-2378

  
Mitchell P. Kunich, Acting Director  
Waste Management Project Office