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WM Project 10-11
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June 15, 1984

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Memorandum for: Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of Waste Management

From: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. OLR - NNWSI

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Subject: NNWSI Site Report for week of June 11, 1984

1. I received a copy of the "Project Specific Agreement" dated June 11, 1984 and was asked to comment to Sylvie Olney by COB, June 13. This I did with several comments, the chief one being that much data collected by the NNWSI participants are not routinely made accessible or available to DOE. This should not be a condition for availability of data to the NRC.
2. I have received a copy of the June 1, draft of the NNWSI EA and am in the process of reviewing this document.
3. Susan Bilhorn sent me a copy of a letter to Dr. Vieth dated April 14, 1983 from Seth Coplan concerning "Information Considered Necessary Regarding Exploratory Shaft Construction and Sealing." Paul Amat, LANL, a key member of the team preparing the "Exploratory Shaft Test Plan" (ESTP) reviewed the concerns expressed in the letter and assured me (telecon, 6-15-84) that all concerns are being addressed. I conveyed this information to Susan Bilhorn.
4. Atef Elzeftawy called with information from Dr. Marty Mifflin, DRI, that as much as 24,000 gallons of water are being sprayed on the pad being prepared to drill UZ-6, a drillhole that will be used to investigate the hydrology of the unsaturated zone on top of Yucca Mountain. Ralph Richards, DOE informed me that the water is being mixed with soils to prepare a firm foundation for the drill rig. This is a common engineering practice. However, since there is a very thin veneer of prepared (engineered) soils on top of fractured rock at this drilling location the possibility that this water might contaminate the site and make an accurate determination of the moisture content of the unsaturated zone impossible will be investigated by DOE. I will keep on top of this.

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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

JUN 11 1984

J. William Bennett, Acting Assoc. Dir., Office of Geologic Repository
Deployment, DOE/HQ (RW-20), GTN

NNWSI WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 8, 1984

I. Issues Requiring Involvement of HQ or other Projects

A. New Issues:

None to report.

B. Previously Reported Issues:

Issue	Status	First Report Date
1. A Bureau of Indian Affairs memo regarding Indians having Federal treaty rights was requested from Barry Gale previously. The Moapa Indians claim they are an affected tribe in Nevada and we want a copy of that memo in order to deal with that claim.	No response. Would like copy of BIA memo as soon as possible.	May 25, 1984
2. USGS informal proposal to DOE/HQ re: alternate means of getting slots for OCRWM/NNWSI support. NNWSI would like details.	No response from HQ.	May 5, 1984
3. Formal action needed to form RCG ad hoc committee to develop uniform statements on economics, safety, and technology with regard to horizontal vs. vertical emplacement and retrievability.	No response. Awaiting formal guidance from HQ (Virgil Lowry) on how to take action on this.	May 5, 1984

II. Major Internal Concerns

None to report.

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

SA

None to report.

II

A Program-wide meeting was held in Denver on June 5 to discuss the WBS changes proposed by HQ. The purpose was to develop a WBS that is common to all projects in order to enable HQ to make comparisons between the projects on an equal basis. Agreements reached at the meeting appear to impact all projects uniformly. If the final WBS concurred with at this meeting becomes finalized, the NNWSI Project can accept it.

Paul Prestholt (NRC) visited the LLNL waste package facilities on June 8 and was given a tour and briefing on NNWSI Project waste package activities. He was accompanied by Jerry Szymanski and Mike Valentine of DOE/NV.

QA personnel from all NNWSI participant organizations and support contractors from the NTS met in Las Vegas on June 5-6 for a workshop on the quality level approach which is set forth in NVO-196-17 (Rev. 2), the NNWSI QAP. The workshop was held to assure project-wide understanding of the requirements imposed by Revision 2.

IV. Upcoming Events

1. Coordination Group Meetings

None to report.

2. HQ Meetings

None to report.

3. Internal Project and DOE/NV Meetings

- o Monday, June 11: Don Vieth to make presentation at USGS Quarterly Coordination Meeting at GTN.
- o Wednesday-Thursday, June 13-14: ESTP Committee Meeting, Las Vegas.
- o Thursday, June 21: WMPO/SAI Monthly Status Review Meeting.

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- o Monday-Tuesday, June 26-27: Project Manager-Technical Project Officers meeting, Las Vegas.

4. State and Public Interaction

- o Tuesday, June 12: Flyover tour of Yucca Mountain and adjacent areas, visit to the Core Library, and Weapons-Testing Facilities, for Bob Broadbent (Assistant Secretary Designate for Water and Science Division of Department of the Interior) and a group of VIP's.
- o Wednesday, June 20: NV Legislative Commission Subcommittee to Study Disposal of High-Level Nuclear Waste in Nevada public hearing.
- o Wednesday, June 27: North Las Vegas City Council tour of NTS Waste Management Facilities.
- o Thursday-Friday, June 28-29: D. L. Vieth presentation to National Research Council, Seattle.

5. NRC Interaction

- o Tuesday-Friday, July 10-13: Geochemistry Workshop, ABQ.
- o Tuesday-Friday, July 17-20: Conceptual Design Data Review, ABQ.
- o Monday-Thursday, July 23-26: Geohydrology Data Review, DEN.

WMPO:DLV-912


Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office

J. William Bennett

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cc:

T. P. Longo, DOE/HQ (RW-22), GTN
J. J. Fiore, DOE/HQ (RW-22), GTN
C. R. Cooley, DOE/HQ (RW-24), GTN
M. W. Frei, DOE/HQ (RW-23), GTN
V. J. Cassello, DOE/HQ (RW-12) GTN
E. S. Burton, DOE/HQ (RW-25), FORSTL
J. O. Neff, DOE/SRPO, Columbus, OH
S. A. Mann, DOE/CRPO, Argonne, IL
O. L. Olson, DOE/RL, Richland, WA
R. W. Taft, AMES
L. E. Perrin, RMB
A. J. Roberts, RMB
T. O. Hunter, SNL, 6310, Albuquerque, NM
W. W. Dudley, JR., USGS, Denver, CO
L. D. Ramspott, LLNL, Livermore, CA
D. T. Oakley, LANL, Los Alamos, NM
A. R. Haki, W, NTS
M. E. Spaeth, SAI, Las Vegas, NV
J. R. LaRiviere, SAI, Las Vegas, NV
W. S. Twenhofel, Lakewood, CO
J. H. Fiore, SAI, Las Vegas, NV
R. R. Loux, NWPO
C. H. Johnson, NWPO
P. T. Prestholt, NRC/Las Vegas, NV
NNWSI Project File