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

WM WASTE CONTROL
CENTER

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Reply to:
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TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director
FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative
DATE: December 29, 1986
SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Report

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report received in this office, i.e., for week ending December 12, 1986.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

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

WM Record File 102 WM Project 11
Docket No. _____
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Distribution: J Kennedy
REB MJB TRDM NSkill
JOB Etana SCoplan Justus
(Return to WM, 623-SS)
cc: Linehan Stablein
Bilhorn Wastler

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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

DEC 24 1986

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 DECEMBER 12, 1986

I. Critical Items Status

A. Stop Work Order

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL)--The "QA Audits" section of the SNL Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) was submitted to the Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) for approval. Procedures for "Study Plans," "Analysis Definitions Requirements," "Technical Procedures Requirements," and "Requirements for Experiment and Equipment Test Logbooks" were approved for issue.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)--Scientific Investigation Planning (SIP) documentation for the interim and prototype testing plans for geologic studies of the Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) was revised and resubmitted to USGS Quality Assurance (QA) personnel, as well as SIP documentation for geophysical and rock properties testing.

A final draft of the QA Manual training session slides was delivered to the USGS QA office.

USGS personnel are continuing work on the SIP documentation and Quality Assurance Level Assignments (QALAs) for the matric property, infiltration study, neutron access hole, borehole logging, surface seismicity, drillhole stemming and instrument calibration in G-Tunnel, prototype testing, intact fracture testing, wrench faulting, and magnetotelluric survey activities.

B. Site Characterization Plan (SCP)

Accomplishments:

Review of Chapters 2 and 4 has been completed by the Project Overview Committee (POC) and the chapters are now in production.

Review of Chapter 5 was completed by the POC on December 2.

Section 8.2 was distributed to the POC for review on December 4.

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A list of POC subcommittees, chairmen, and a review schedule for sections of 8.3.1 (site characterization issues) was completed December 4.

Section 8.6 (Quality Assurance) was reviewed by the POC on December 4 and 5.

POC review of Chapter 6 was completed.

Status of Ongoing Activities:

Revisions to Chapter 1, based on POC comments are being finalized.

Chapter 3 is currently being reviewed by the POC.

Work is continuing on the waste package strategy document, which is not expected to have a major impact on Chapter 7; a limited POC review of this chapter is being considered.

Reference verification comments are being incorporated into Chapter 2.

Revisions to Chapter 5, based on POC comments, are being finalized.

Minor revisions to Chapter 6 are underway.

A POC telecon with U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters (HQ) was held on December 5 to review DOE comments on Section 8.1. A generic 8.0 and 8.1 was later received from DOE/HQ and has been incorporated at HQ's request, into the NNWSI Project SCP version of these sections.

Revisions are underway to Section 8.2 based on DOE/HQ comments.

POC subcommittees are reviewing packages of 8.3.1 material.

Sections 8.3.2 and 8.3.3 are being reviewed by the POC

Sections 8.4 and 8.7 are on hold pending approval of the white paper. These sections may not be revised and reviewed by the POC in time for inclusion in the draft SCP in January, 1987.

Work is continuing on Section 8.5 (schedules).

Revisions to Section 8.6 based on POC review, are underway.

Meetings:

POC subcommittees will meet to review the following material:

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Geochemistry, Erosion, Human Interference, and Surface Characteristics on December 8.

Geohydrology and Meteorology on December 8.

Pre- and Postclosure Rock Characteristics on December 9.

Climate, Ground-water Travel Time, and Preclosure Hydrology on December 9.

Higher-level Findings on December 10.

Pre- and Postclosure Tectonics on December 11.

Performance Assessment Program on December 11.

Core Sample Management

At Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) the first draft of the technical procedure for the Sample Management Facility (SMF) for field logging and documentation of NNWSI Project core was completed and distributed for Branch review. Work Package planning for the SMF was also completed along with eight work package descriptions.

I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

A letter to Knight on December 2 comments on the proposed interactions and technical meetings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the need to complete the SCP and requests HQ approval to conduct a DOE and NRC interaction on seismic/tectonics in February 1987. (87-529).

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 over-flight of licensed facilities by aircraft. (86-958)	Due May 6, 1986.	03/27/86
2. Draft NNWSI Project Charter sent to Cassella on June 26 to obtain necessary signatures from Headquarters personnel. (86-1573)	Due July 17, 1986.	07/03/86

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Issue	Status	First Report Date
3. Letter to Knight dated August 6 requested comments by August 27 on proposed technical and Appendix 7 meetings with NRC and a proposed schedule. (86-2019)	Due August 27, 1986.	08/21/86
4. Letter to Jelacic dated August 21 requests information about applicability of "A Guide to Radiological Accident Considerations for Siting and Design of Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Facilities" to Nuclear Waste Policy Act Program. (86-2126)	Due September 11, 1986.	10/31/86
5. 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) Briefing postponed.	Due November 28, 1986.	10/24/86
6. Letter to Alexander requests level of effort support by Argonne National Laboratory in support of NNWSI Project SCP reference verification task as defined in an enclosed outline. (87-295)	Due November 6, 1986.	10/31/86
7. A letter to Roth dated October 23 requests that the Source Selection Official authority be delegated to T.R. Clark for the competitive selection of an architect/engineer contractor for the prospective Yucca Mountain radioactive waste repository. (87-296)	Due November 13, 1986.	10/31/86

Issue	Status	First Report Date
8. Letter dated November 10 to Newton requests clarification of three areas in minutes of July 23-24 GACG 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 NRC participating on DOE audits. (87-404)	Due December 8, 1986.	11/14/86
9. Letter to Alexander dated November 21, requests additional clarification of Office of Geologic Repositories (OGR) definition of ongoing and planned site characterization activities; especially requests assistance in categorizing enclosed examples. (87-489)	Due December 12, 1986.	11/28/86
10. Letter to Stein, dated November 25, requests input regarding details needed to produce the SCP: (1) number of documents to be printed, (2) binding, (3) cost, (4) printing schedule, (5) color coding of document, and (6) cover design. (87-501)	Due December 15, 1986.	11/28/86
11. Letter to Knight dated December 1 asks how and when response will be made to NRC letter of September 26, 1986, on definition of engineered barrier system. (87-523)	Due December 12, 1986.	12/05/86

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Fenix & Scisson, Inc., sent the "Controlled Blasting Study" to WMPO for review and comment.

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The Los Alamos National Laboratory report "Problematic Mineral Deposits in Faults near Yucca Mountain, Nevada, compared with Possible Analogs" (Milestone R319) was submitted to WMPO for review.

The SNL Milestone R086, "Definition of Technical Procedures Required to be Prepared for Exploratory Shaft Testing," was sent to WMPO. It consists of a list of experiments and equipment test procedures that would provide detailed written requirements and primary control for implementing experiments and equipment tests. A second list covers technical procedures that will define procedural steps in support of the first list of procedures.

A working draft of the Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan, prepared by SAIC, was delivered to the State of Nevada on December 1.

Review comments of the Nevada State Grant Proposal were completed at SAIC this week and sent to the WMPO. In general, it was felt that the Project needs additional information on the proposed research and the contractors.

An NNWSI Project and NRC Appendix 7 meeting will be held in Las Vegas December 9-11 and in Albuquerque on Friday, December 12. In Albuquerque participants will discuss the repository conceptual design with representatives from SNL; Parsons, Brinkerhoff, Quade, and Douglas; and Bechtel National Inc.

III. Upcoming Events

A. Coordination Group Meetings

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1.	Tuesday-Wednesday, January 13-14	Geosciences Coordi- nation Group	Washington, D.C.	M. Blanchard, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Thursday, January 20-22	Environmental Coordi- nation Group	Las Vegas	B. Jankus, WMPO

B. HQ Meetings

1.	Monday-Friday, December 15-19	Licensing Support System Task Group Meeting	Washington, D.C.	M. Kunich, WMPO
2.	Tuesday-Wednesday, January 6-7	QA Working Group	Atlanta, GA	J. Blaylock, WMPO

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
C. <u>Internal Project and DOE/NV Meetings</u>			
1. Tuesday, December 16	DOE/NV Manager's Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
2. Tuesday-Thursday, December 16-18	Systems Engineering Integration Group Meeting	Las Vegas	J. Robson, WMPO
3. Tuesday, January 6	Sample Overview Committee Meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
4. Tuesday, January 13	DOE/NV Manager's Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
5. Tuesday-Wednesday, January 20-21	PM-TPO Meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC
D. <u>State and Public Interaction</u>			
1. Thursday, December 18	Bilbray visit to WMPO	Las Vegas	D. Vieth, WMPO
2. Tuesday-Wednesday, January 6-7	EEI visit to NV	Las Vegas	D. Vieth, WMPO
E. <u>NRC Interaction</u>			
None to report.			

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 Donald L. Vieth, Director
 Waste Management Project Office