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MEMORANDUM FOR: Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
High-Level Waste Technical  
Development Branch  
Division of Waste Management

FROM: Seth M. Coplan  
High-Level Waste Technical  
Development Branch  
Division of Waste Management

SUBJECT: PRE SCR INTERACTIONS WITH DOE FOR NTS

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This memorandum addresses Pre SCR interactions with DOE for NTS and satisfies OPS plan commitment 311212E. Informal Pre SCR, technical interactions with DOE have been underway for more than a year. The first major steps will be a site visit to NTS. On March 4, I informed Carl Newton of DOE that about a dozen NRC staff members and consultants would like to visit the NTS for about three days during the last half of April. On March 5, a proposed agenda was telefaxed to Newton and Mitchell Kunich, the acting NNWSI project manager. During the week of March 8, Newton informed me that Kunich would work out a suitable date with his technical project officers during meetings with them, on March 17 and 18.

On March 19, we were informed that DOE wished to delay our visit until July. DOE contended that the scope of our proposed agenda was so broad that extensive preparation by NNWSI personnel would be needed and that preparation at this time would severely impact critical, ongoing work. During several subsequent telephone conversations, I explained to Kunich that delaying the site visit to July would severely impact our work, that we were not expecting elaborate presentations that would require extensive preparation, and that the agenda was negotiable. However, little direct progress was made in establishing a date and agenda for the site visit.

On March 31, a conference call was held among Ralph Stein, Kunich, and Newton of DOE and Hubert Miller, Robert Wright and myself of the NRC.

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After some discussion that seems to have led to improved general understanding of DOE's and NRC's respective situations it was agreed that I would meet with Kunich on March 31 to establish a time and agenda for the site visit.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Seth M. Coplan  
High-Level Waste Technical  
Development Branch  
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