

Mr. Ralph Stein, Associate Director  
 Office of Systems Integration and Regulations  
 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
 U. S. Department of Energy RW-24  
 Washington, D. C. 20545

DEC 22 1988

Dear Mr. Stein:

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW PLAN

Enclosed for your information and use is a copy of Revision 1 to the "U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Review Plan for High-Level Waste Repository Quality Assurance Program Descriptions." This plan will be used by the Division of High-Level Waste Management (HLWM) staff to judge the acceptability of the quality assurance program plans developed by the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE), its contractors, and the State of Nevada. The positions presented in the Enclosure represent solutions and approaches that are acceptable to the HLWM staff. Alternatives to the criteria in the Plan may be found acceptable provided these alternatives are documented and justified.

This revision: (1) incorporates experience from four years of use by the HLWM staff, and lessons learned from the nuclear power plant program; (2) endorses NQA-1, "QA Requirements for Nuclear Facilities, 1986," which is the consensus standard endorsed by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission since the original quality assurance (QA) review plan was issued; and (3) references the staff Technical Positions published in the last several years. A number of new positions formally adopted in this plan reflect positions that the HLWM staff has been taking in its reviews of DOE and Nevada QA plans. The HLWM staff intends to continue its use of the enclosed Plan for all future submittals of QA program plans.

As the HLWM staff gains additional experience with the plan, it may revise the plan. If you have any questions on the use of the plan, please feel free to contact the HLWM project manager for QA, Joe Holonich, who can be reached at (301) 492-3403 or FTS 492-3403.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

John J. Linehan, Director  
 Repository Licensing and Quality  
 Assurance Project Directorate  
 Division of High-Level Waste Management

Enclosure: As stated

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