

Distribution:

REB MJBJob EDM

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

G. Sanborn
B. TrojanowskiDRMCFRLinehan

MISSISSIPPI

SWKERR**NUCLEAR WASTE**

CENTER

HIGHLIGHTS

'86 APR 14 11:38

No. 27, April 8, 1986

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & TRANSPORTATION**DIRECTOR NAMED**

At its March 12 meeting, the Energy and Transportation Board named John W. Green to serve as MDET Executive Director. Mr. Green has served as interim director since the resignation of Wilbur Ball in May 1985. Mr. Green has 25 years experience in state government, including work with the State Highway Department and the Mississippi Geological Survey. He has also served as MDET Energy Division Director and MDET Nuclear Waste Division Director.

E&T BOARD ACTIONS

The Energy and Transportation Board met on March 12 and approved two recommendations of the Nuclear Waste Policy Advisory Council. The first item of business was a request to allow special legislation to be drafted requesting \$125,000 for the conduct of a socioeconomic impact assessment in the Richton area. This motion was discussed and passed unanimously. The second motion which also passed unanimously was to have the Board go on record as opposing the use of any radioactive materials in testing of the Richton Salt Dome pursuant to the establishment of a repository.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY

Following the approval by the Board to request socioeconomic funding, a resolution was drafted. On March 18, an amendment requesting the \$125,000 was placed on the MDET appropriations bill. The amendment was sponsored by Senator Lambert along with Senator Gollott, Senator Usey, Senator Shows, Senator Smith (42nd), Senator Mills, Senator Rosenblatt, and Senator Smith (44th). MDET had requested the \$125,000 in its original budget request, but the money was cut before the appropriations bill was introduced into the House of Representatives. The bill is now in a House/Senate Conference Committee.

METH-ODOLOGY BRIEFINGS

MDET Executive Director John Green and Governor's aide James Palmer attended a briefing held for states and tribes on the DOE ranking methodology on March 21. Also in attendance was Dr. Charles Hadlock of Arthur D. Little, a subcontractor to MDET. The substance of the meeting consisted of presentations by Tom Longo on how the utility estimation method was applied to the pre- and post-closure guidelines. No information was presented which would allow an independent ranking of the sites. The State was also once again denied an opportunity to participate in or even attend the NAS/DOE meeting held on March 24 through 26.

NO MONEY FOR NEVADA

In December 1984, Nevada filed suit against DOE for their refusal to allow funds to conduct independent data-gathering activities. On December 2, 1985, the court ruled in favor of Nevada and stated that the states had the right to conduct independent studies in order to file a notice of disapproval. On January 30, 1986, Nevada returned to court to have the court clarify the intent of the original order and require DOE to provide funding. On March 3, the court ruled in DOE's favor since they were preparing new guidelines for the grants program. Nevada's application will be examined in light of these guidelines.

NRC ON 1998

On October 30, 1985, at a Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing on the high-level waste program, Senator Moynihan asked the Commissioners to formulate a position on whether the 1998 deadline is conducive to the best outcome of the program and whether Congress should reconsider this deadline. On February 21, the Commission responded by saying that the schedules are "aggressive and optimistic". The Commission believes that DOE's commitment of no shortcuts to meet the deadline is very important. The Commission also pledged that the deadline will not be a factor in their review of the site characterization plans.

B6050B0486 B6040B
PDR WASTE
WM-16 PDR

1327

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- April 8 Nuclear Waste Policy Advisory Council, 1:30 p.m., 12th floor, Walter Sillers Building
- April 10 Energy and Transportation Board, Jackson, Mississippi
- April 15-17 DOE, States, and Tribes Quarterly Issues Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- April 22 DOE/NRC Licensing Support System (LSS) Coordinating Group Washington, D.C.
- April 23 House Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power Hearing on Second Repository Issues, Washington, D.C.
- April 24-25 DOE/NRC on SCP, Washington, D.C.
- April 29 NRC LSS demonstration, Las Vegas, Nevada
- May 1 House Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power Hearing on First Repository Issues, Washington, D.C.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

- BMI/ONWI-517 Waste Package Reference Conceptual Designs for a Repository in Salt
- BMI/ONWI-541 (Rev. 1) Preclosure Radiological Calculations to Support Salt Site Evaluations
- DOE/CH/10140-5(85) Bibliography of Studies for the Salt Repository Project Office of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program, April 1978-July 1985
- NUREG/CR-4379 Long-Term Performance of Materials Used for High-Level Waste Packaging
- NUREG/CR-4509 Waste Package Reliability
- NUREG/CR-3091 Review of Waste Package Verification Tests

Reference documents for the final Environmental Assessment

| | |
|--|--|
| DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & TRANSPORTATION 510 George Street Jackson, MS 39202 | NUCLEAR WASTE DIVISION John W. Green, Director 601/961-4733 |
|--|--|

This publication was supported by the U. S. Department of Energy under DOE Contract No. DE-FG97-83WM46655.

Department of Energy & Transportation
510 George Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jackson, Miss.
Permit No. 651

Ms. Donna R. Mattson
Div. of Waste Management
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm.
Washington DC 20555