



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

APR 12 1988

Mr. Robert E. Browning
Director, Division of High Level
Waste Management
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Browning: *Bob*

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of a change in the organization of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) which was established in the Department of Energy (DOE) by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. With the passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987, the Department has determined that a reorganization of the Office is appropriate to more effectively implement the new provisions and focus of the civilian radioactive waste program as directed by the Amendments Act.

The main feature of the reorganization is the establishment of four functional program offices and an Office of Quality Assurance to replace the former project-oriented structure. In the new organization, increased emphasis is placed on quality assurance, facility licensing, systems integration, and external interactions.

An organization chart for the Office is enclosed.

A new, separate Office of Quality Assurance will report to the Director, OCRWM. The purpose of this Office is to assure development and implementation of an effective quality assurance program to demonstrate the technical performance of the waste management system. This is essential to obtain the required licenses from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and to establish public confidence in the technical quality of the program. Mr. Pierre Saget, detailed from DOE's Richland Operations Office, is currently Acting Director until a permanent Director is named. Sharing in the responsibility of establishing this important function is Mr. William Kehew, on detail from DOE's Chicago Operations Office.

Mr. Richard T. Nelson of the Office of Congressional Relations will continue to serve as Congressional liaison for OCRWM.

The four functional program offices will each be headed by an Associate Director and a Deputy Associate Director.

The Office of Program Administration and Resources Management is responsible for administrative management and support services, cost and scheduling activities, budget preparation, grants and financial assistance programs, land acquisition, procurement activities including the Management and Operating

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contract for systems engineering, development and management support, and utility contracts. Mr. Samuel Rousso has been named as Associate Director and Mr. James C. Bresee as Deputy Associate Director.

The Office of Facilities Siting and Development is responsible for site characterization of the Yucca Mountain, Nevada, site and the siting of an MRS facility. This Office is also responsible for the design and development of the repository, monitored retrievable storage (MRS) facility, and waste package; socioeconomic planning; consultation and cooperation; and benefits agreements. Mr. Stephen H. Kale and Mr. Jerome D. Saltzman have been named as Associate Director and Deputy Associate Director, respectively.

The Office of Systems Integration and Regulations is responsible for overall systems integration; facility licensing; regulatory and environmental compliance; transportation systems development and operation; risk, safety, and performance assessment; and spent fuel storage activities. Mr. Ralph Stein has been named as Associate Director and Mr. Keith A. Klein as Deputy Associate Director.

Mr. Thomas H. Isaacs has been named as Associate Director and Mr. Lake H. Barrett as Deputy Associate Director of the Office of External Relations and Policy. This Office is responsible for interactions with the newly created MRS Review Commission and the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; as well as continuing external interactions with the State, local, and Tribal governments, international organizations, the media, the public, and the Congress. In addition, this Office will coordinate development of program policy and strategy.

With the passage of the Amendments Act, the Congress has narrowed the repository site characterization activities, has provided for the inclusion of the MRS in the integrated waste management system, and has created new oversight and review bodies which should provide credibility of the technical excellence in the program. I consider these changes to be constructive ones and believe the changes, coupled with the new organization of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, will enhance the management of the program, both technically and institutionally, and provide for appropriate cost controls.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Kay, Acting Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure