

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

AUG 19 1988

Dear Mr. Stein:

Over the past several years the NRC has identified to DOE in meeting notes and letters a number of open items related to design or construction of the exploratory shaft facility (ESF). As has been made clear in that same record, these open items need to be resolved prior to the start of ESF construction. If NRC is to provide comments on the ESF-related portion of the SCP 90 days after NRC receipt of the SCP, the information required to resolve some of these open items will need to be provided to NRC as early as two months prior to NRC receipt of the SCP.

At the NRC-DOE management meeting August 17, 1988 DOE expressed its intent to meet its present schedule for release of the SCP (December, 1988) and start of ESF construction (June, 1989). In recognition of the schedule, it is urgent that NRC and DOE meet soon to agree on an approach and schedule for resolving each ESF-related open item. Enclosed with this letter is a proposed agenda for a two to three day NRC-DOE meeting on ESF-related open items. I propose that this meeting take place as early as you can provide the necessary schedules.

Given the urgency to hold this meeting as early as possible, I request that you provide a quick response to the proposed agenda and the dates when DOE will be prepared to meet with NRC. If you have any questions concerning this letter or the enclosed agenda, please contact King Stablein (FTS 492-0446) of my staff.

Sincerely,

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John Linehan, Acting Chief
Operations Branch
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
C. Gertz, DOE-NV/WMPO

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AGENDA

NRC-DOE MEETING ON
EXPLORATORY SHAFT FACILITY (ESF)
OPEN ITEMS
WHITE FLINT, MARYLAND

OBJECTIVE: The objectives of the meeting are: (1) for NRC to restate all outstanding ESF open items previously documented in meeting notes or letters to DOE, noting the information needed to resolve the open item and whether the information is needed prior to the SCP, in the SCP, or prior to the start of ESF construction; (2) to get agreement from DOE that they clearly understand the NRC staff concerns; (3) for DOE to present an approach and schedule for addressing the ESF-related open items identified and documented by NRC from 1983 to the present that will lead to resolution of those open items; and (4) for NRC and DOE to agree on the approach and schedule for resolving each open item.

OPENING STATEMENTS

NRC
DOE
STATE OF NEVADA
OTHER AFFECTED
PARTIES

SCOPE OF MEETING

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| o | History of ESF Open Items Identified
and Documented by NRC | NRC |
| o | DOE Approach to Address ESF Open Items | DOE |

OPEN ITEM ON ESF DESIGN PROCESS (including incorporation
of 10 CFR Part 60 into design and assignment of quality
levels)

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| o | Review of Open Item | NRC |
| o | Approach to and Schedule for Resolution | DOE |

OPEN ITEM ON SHAFT LOCATION (CDSCP OBJECTION 4)

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| o | Review of Open Item | NRC |
| o | Approach to and Schedule for Resolution | DOE |

* Meeting will require 2-3 days. Specific dates are yet to be established.

OPEN ITEM ON PENETRATION OF CALICO HILLS UNIT
(CDSCP OBJECTION 2)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

OPEN ITEM ON POTENTIAL INTERFERENCES WITH TESTING
(CDSCP OBJECTION 3)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

OPEN ITEMS FROM 1983 NRC LETTER TO DOE (taken one by one)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

OPEN ITEMS FROM 1985 NRC-DOE ESF MEETING (taken one by one)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

OPEN ITEMS FROM 1987 NRC-DOE ESF MEETING (taken one by one)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

OPEN ITEMS FROM CDSCP POINT PAPERS (Comments and
Questions, taken one by one)

- o Review of Open Item NRC
- o Approach to and Schedule for Resolution DOE

CLOSING REMARKS

NRC
DOE
STATE OF NEVADA
OTHER AFFECTED
PARTIES