

AUG 30 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Hugh L. Thompson, Jr., Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

THRU: Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management

FROM: B. J. Youngblood, Deputy Director
Division of High-level Waste Management

SUBJECT: AUGUST 17, 1988 MANAGEMENT MEETING WITH DOE CONCERNING
HIGH-LEVEL WASTE

ATTENDEES: NRC: H. L. Thompson, Jr., R. E. Browning, R. F. Burnett,
B. J. Youngblood
DOE: C. E. Kay, R. Stein, S. Kale, L. Barrett, T. Isaccs

NRC/NMSS met with DOE/OCRWM on August 17, 1988, to discuss items of mutual interest. The initial subject of discussion was the need to consider standardization associated with Dry Casks. It appears that the canister design for storage of spent fuel on-site in dry casks is not compatible with shipping casks. It was decided that questions concerning the verification of burn-up, potential for repackaging and standard designs should be discussed in a technical meeting between NRC and DOE staff sometime in the near future.

NRC identified the need for DOE comments on two NRC rulemakings: Disposal of Radioactive Wastes (10 CFR 61), and NEPA Review Procedures for Geologic Repositories for High-Level Waste (10 CFR 51). The comment period for both of these rulemakings ended on July 18, 1988 and August 3, 1988, respectively. DOE indicated that their comments on the proposed 10 CFR 51 rule would be sent very soon but they had some major concerns with regard to the proposed 10 CFR 61 rule and comments on it may take somewhat longer.

NRC noted that resolution of NRC's technical concerns regarding the Exploratory Shaft did not appear to be on a timeframe compatible with DOE's current schedule of beginning preparations for shaft sinking by January 1989. It was agreed that a technical meeting concerning the Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) was needed as soon as DOE was ready and DOE stated that they would give NRC a proposed schedule the week of August 22, 1988 for the meeting. The major objectives of the meeting would be to update several years of correspondence on the subject (similar to the correspondence close-out on the QA program), the closure of or DOE's approach to address the ESF open items, and the schedule for submittal of the necessary technical information to permit NRC to reach

109
WM-1
NHT/6/11

agreement on DOE programs in time to support DOE's ES site preparation and ES construction.

The waste vitrification programs at Savannah River and West Valley (WV) were briefly discussed. NRC wanted it to be clear how NRC's and DOE's HLW repository responsibilities should be coordinated between DOE and NRC. In accordance with the West Valley Demonstration Act of 1980, the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS, consults with the WV Demonstration Project (DOE/NE) with regard to the health and safety of the WV site activities. The assurance of the quality and the acceptance criteria for the vitrification product and its canister will be coordinated between NMSS/DHLWM and DOE/OCRWM for West Valley and Savannah River. OCRWM agreed that DHLWM should work through their Office with regard to acceptance criteria and quality assurance requirements associated with the performance of these engineered barrier materials in the HLW repository.

131

B. J. Youngblood, Deputy Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management

cc: Meeting Attendees
T. Combs, GPA
R. Loux, Nevada

Distribution

NMSS r/f
HLWM s/f
REBrowning
BJYoungblood

RBernero
JJLinehan
KStablein
CNWRA

TLSS
Central File
PDR
LPDR

OFC	: HLWM	: HLWM	:	:	:	:	:
NAME	: BYoungblood	: REBrowning	:	:	:	:	:
DATE	: 08/25/88	: 08/26/88	:	:	:	:	: