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April 18, 1985

S. Elthorn
J. Giacintano

See Packet 3
for encl.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of Waste Management

FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. OR-NNWSI

PTP

Subject: NNWSI Site Report for Weeks of March 25 and
April 1, 8, and 15, 1985

I. The NNWSI has taken the lead in developing a technical position on seismo/tectonics. The document was originally designed to be specific to Yucca Mountain and was to be used in developing an agenda for a NRC/DOE workshop on seismo/tectonics. After discussions between WMPO and DOE-Hq., it was decided (by DOE-Hq.) that the technical position should be generic. Jerry Szymanski, DOE-WMPO, wrote a draft annotated table of contents (ATOC) and a meeting was held in Las Vegas on April 3 to consider this draft. Attending this meeting were representatives from DOE-Hq., Salt, BWIP, and NNWSI.

The document agreed to on April 3 has some generic aspects but is still primarily aimed at Yucca Mountain. It is presently at DOE-Hq. for approval. It is anticipated that there will be further changes to the document.

II. On April 3, I got a call from Larry Ramspott, NNWSI Technical Project Officer from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, concerning the use of the NNWSI monthly reports as a reference in the NRC comments on the EA. Dr. Ramspott pointed out that these reports are used to distribute information to the various NNWSI participants and that the reports are not officially published documents. Information that is preliminary in nature is often included, giving the other participants a chance to comment. The monthly report is the main vehicle used by the NNWSI to disseminate ideas and information within the NNWSI.

I brought Dr. Ramspott's objections to King Stablein's attention and he, in turn, discussed the problem with John Linehan. Linehan and Stablein agreed with Dr. Ramspott's position and the NNWSI monthly reports will not be used as a reference in future NRC documents.

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III. On Thursday, April 11, I was invited by Dr. Vieth to attend a meeting at Nellis Air Force Base. The meeting concerned the overflight by Air Force aircraft, equipped with live ordnance, in the area just east of Exile Hill on the NTS which has been designated as the site for the repository surface facilities. The Air Force commented on the EA, bringing to DOE's attention the fact that there are established flight corridors over the area designated as the site of the surface facilities, and over the railroad spur connecting the main line in Las Vegas and the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain.

The Air Force and DOE tentatively agreed to establish an overflight exclusion area of possibly 3 miles diameter over the surface facility site. However, the railroad spur presented a more difficult problem. Daily, low-level flights of aircraft with armed ordnance would be conducted over the proposed spur right-of-way just north of Highway 95. The DOE is investigating alternative routes, one of which is south of the Spring Mountains.

IV. On the 15th, Matthew M. Azhikakath, Manager; Engineering and Contract Administration Dept. of Reynolds Electric and Engineering Co., Inc. (REECO) and Arnold K. Fowkes, Quality Assurance Manager for REECO met with me in my office. They wished to discuss the NRC's Q. A. requirements and to assure the NRC that they wanted to meet all requirements. I told them that we are working to 10 CFR 50, App. B and the NRC Review Plan: Quality Assurance Programs for Site Characterization of High Level Nuclear Waste Repositories, dated June, 1984. I stressed that the NRC wanted the formal QA organization to be independent of the line organization and that they should work within the NNWSI Quality Assurance Plan.

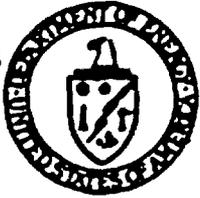
V. On March 28 there was a forum on the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The panel included Dr. Vieth, Dr. Len Zane, Department of Physics, UNLV; and Mr. Bob Stoldal, News Director, KLAS-TV. Bob Loux, State of Nevada, was to be a panel member but he was weathered-in in Carson City. In general, the same people showed up at this meeting as did for the EA briefings and hearings. The comments to the panel were mostly emotional with the main theme being--don't confuse me with facts.

VI. I reviewed William Bland's final report and discussed it with Jim Blalock, DOE-WMPO. There is interest here in Mr. Bland's recommendations and I understand that the WMPO will try to bring Mr. Bland to Las Vegas for a briefing. I was told that DOE-Hq. was very cool toward the Bland report.

VII. Avi Bender, WMPC, has requested a copy of the NNWSI Work

Breakdown Structure (WBS) Catalog. This document won't be ready until the middle of May. We will be given a copy at that time and I'll forward it to Silver Spring.

VIII. The new conference table was delivered on the 15th. This office is now fully furnished.



Department of Energy
Nevada Operations Office
P. O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

FEB 12 1985

**W. J. Purcell, Director, Office of Geologic Repositories, DOE/HQ (RW-20),
FORSTL**

NNWSI PROJECT MONTHLY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1984

**Enclosed is the NNWSI Monthly Report for December 1984 covering the
technical activities and status of the NNWSI Project.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald L. Vieth".

**Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office**

WMPO:DLV-647

**Enclosure:
As stated**