

FEB 08 1989

RS LETTER

- 1 -

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

Dear Mr. Stein:

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF JANUARY 10, 1989 LETTER ON QUALITY ASSURANCE

In my letter to you dated January 10, 1989 I discussed the fact that there may be indications the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is interpreting the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 50, Appendix B (10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B) too strictly. The letter continued by stating that the approach outlined in the "Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigation Quality Assurance Plan," (NNWSI/88-9) was one acceptable method for meeting 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B and that the DOE contractors will develop the detailed plans and procedures that will translate the general requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B into working level documents.

Upon further examination of the January 10, 1989 letter, I believe that some clarification is needed. I am concerned that DOE may have interpreted the staff as saying that the approach contained in NNWSI/88-9, Revision 2 was too strict, and therefore, unacceptable. This was not the intent of the letter. As indicated in the agenda for the upcoming February 23, 1989 QA meeting, the staff and DOE will be discussing this further.

I hope that this letter helps to clarify the staff's position given in the January 10, 1989 letter. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the project manager for this area, Joe Holonich, who can be reached at (301) 492-3403 or FTS 492-3403.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

John J. Linehan, Director  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management

cc: C. Gertz, DOE/NV  
R. Loux, State of Nevada  
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV  
D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV  
S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV DISTRIBUTION AND CONCURRENCE: SEE NEXT PAGE

8902080372 890208  
PDR WASTE  
WM-11

PDC

Add: ACNW

WM-11  
102.7  
NH16

RS LETTER

- 2 -

DISTRIBUTION:

Central File  
LSS  
CNWRA  
LPDR

B. J. Youngblood  
J. Linehan  
NMSS R/F  
ACNW

R. E. Browning  
R. Ballard  
HLPD R/F  
PDR

J. Bunting  
On-Site Reps  
J. Holonich

OFC : <del>HLPD</del>	: HLPD	: HLPD	:	:	:
NAME: JHolonich	: JKennedy	: JLinehan	:	:	:
DATE: 01/01/89	: 01/26/89	: 01/27/89	:	:	:

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY