



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

MAR 13 1989

Mr. John Linehan, Chief
Project Management and Quality
Assurance Branch
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

This is in response to your letter of January 19, 1989, regarding access to DOE's technical data bases for the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations (NNWSI) project. In it you requested access to the Site and Engineering Properties Data Base (SEPDB) and Local Records Center (LRC) data base. The other issue raised was the length of time between when data were collected in the field or laboratory and when they were entered into the SEPDB.

We offer an interim response to these requests. Within the past few months, the Yucca Mountain Project Office has put a team of people together to address the issue of protocols and procedures for the collection of technical data from the project participants, and the integration of this data into the records management system. The LRC will collect this data and, after appropriate QA signoffs, pass it to the central record facility and the SEPDB. The LRC will never be a "data base", but rather will be an internal collection point for records that can include some data bases.

The answer to the question of access to data will emerge as we better understand the parameters, e.g., what are the sources of data, types of data, required currency of the data, generators of the data and users. By the end of March we will have an implementation plan and schedule for answering these questions and have procedures in place to collect data as it is produced. We will share this plan with you when it is complete.

In the meantime, we reiterate our offer of October 13, 1988. Due to the security of the Sandia system, we would be pleased to generate a tape of the SEPDB on a periodic basis so you could better understand what your eventual computer requirements will be for data analysis. Any of the other products we offered in that letter are still available, of course.

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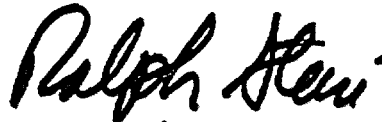
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DOE is also concerned about effective and timely collection of data and providing access to satisfy our users' needs. We will be pleased to work with you as we develop procedures to assure that they will satisfy the NRC needs as well.

Please contact Barbara Cerny of the OCRWM staff at 202-586-5792 or FTS 896-5792 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph Stein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ralph" being more prominent than the last name "Stein".

Ralph Stein
Associate Director for Systems
Integration and Regulations
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

cc:

C. Gertz, DOE/YMPO
R. Loux, State of Nevada
M. Baughman, Lincoln County
S. Bradhurst, Nye County
D. Bechtel, Clark County