

SNL QAPP

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JUN 26 1989

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: REVIEW OF SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORY QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM PLAN

On April 14, 1989, the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) forwarded the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP), SLTR 88-0001, Revision C to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for review and acceptance. The QAPP is a description of the quality assurance (QA) requirements and controls, applicable to quality-affecting activities, which are the responsibility of SNL for the Yucca Mountain Project (YMP). The DOE transmittal letter states that SLTR 88-0001, Revision C meets all the requirements of the NNWSI 88-9, Revision 2 "Quality Assurance Plan" which are applicable to the responsibilities of SNL on the YMP. NNWSI 88-9, Revision 2, which establishes the QA requirements for the YMP, was accepted by the NRC staff in December 1988.

The NRC staff has reviewed the SNL QAPP to determine whether it contains adequate requirements and controls to address the applicable criteria of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 which apply to SNL for the YMP. The bases for our review were the criteria contained in the "NRC Review Plan for High-Level Waste Repository Quality Assurance Program Descriptions" Revision 2 dated March 1989 and staff guidance documents and consensus standards referenced therein.

As a result of our review, the staff has generated the five enclosed comments which were discussed with DOE and the State of Nevada during a telephone conversation on June 21, 1989. Upon receipt of an acceptable resolution of the comments, the NRC staff will find that the SLTR 88-0001, Revision C meets the applicable criteria of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50 and is acceptable.

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Should you have any questions on our review, please contact Brian Thomas of my staff on (301) 492-0435.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

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

Enclosure: NRC Comments

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
- S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
- D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
- C. Gertz, DOE/Nevada
- K. Turner, GAO

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ENCLOSURE

NRC COMMENTS

1. Criterion 1.10 of the Review Plan (RP) states, "Organization charts clearly identify all the "on-site" and "off-site" organizational elements which function under the cognizance of the QA program."

This criterion is not addressed in the QAPP.

2. Criterion 1.17 of the RP states, "Provisions are established for resolving allegations of inadequate quality. These allegations may originate within the responsible organization(s) or from outside the responsible organizations(s)."

This criterion is not addressed in the QAPP.

3. Criterion 2.8 of the RP states, "A policy statement signed by a senior management official renders the implementation of the QA program mandatory."

The policy statement in the QAPP is not signed by a senior manager.

4. Criterion 5.4 of the RP states, "Provisions are described for controlling changes to field and laboratory procedures associated with exploratory investigations within the site characterization program to assure that such changes are subsequently documented and verified in a timely manner by authorized personnel."

This criterion is not addressed in the QAPP.

5. Criterion 14.5 of the RP states, "Procedures are established and described to control altering the sequence of required tests, inspection, and other operations important to safety. Such actions should be subject to the same controls as the original review and approval."

This criterion is not addressed in the QAPP.