



Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

87-AMC-746

SEP 16 1987

Those on Attached List

Ladies and Gentlemen:

LHS TASK GROUP

By letter dated July 28, 1987, the Basalt Waste Isolation Project (BWIP) Hydrology Task Group was established. As you recall, the purpose of the task group was to evaluate the technical impact on the LHS program by sinking the shafts to the top of basalt. As stated in the attached DOE-HQ memorandum, dated September 8, 1987, a decision to issue the SCPs as consultation drafts in January 1988 will delay the start of shaft sinking until mid-1989. Based upon this, the reconvening of the LHS Task Group is being postponed until a future date.

I want to thank the members of the task group for their participation in developing the relevant data and to assure them that the information will be utilized if a decision is made to return to this study.

Thank you again, and if addition information is desired, please contact either me or Mr. Mike Thompson on (509) 376-6421.

Sincerely,

John H. Anttonen, Assistant Manager
for Commercial Nuclear Waste

AMC:MLP

Attachment

cc w/o att:
S. Kale, HQ
J. Knight, HQ
R. Stein, HQ

87271116
WM Project: WM-10
PDR w/enc (WM, 623-SS)
WM Record File: 101
LPDR w/enc

8710220345 870916
PDR WASTE
WM-10 PDR

Addressees - Letter dated SEP 16 1987

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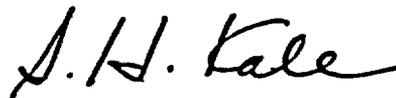
memorandum

DATE: SEP 8 1987
REPLY TO: RW-23
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT: John Anttonen, Project Manager, BWIP
Ralph Stein, Director, Engineering and Geotechnology Division
TO: LHS Task Group

With the recent OCRWM decision to issue the SCPs as consultation drafts in January 1988, it is no longer possible to consider sinking the BWIP exploratory shafts to the first basalt sequence in the summer-fall, 1988 time frame. In fact, the earliest schedule which now seems possible for start of shaft sinking is mid 1989. Accordingly, the rationale for reconvening the LHS task group to evaluate the technical impact on the LHS program by sinking the shafts to the top of basalt is no longer an urgent matter and our resources can be better used elsewhere.

I request that you take immediate action to bring to a close the activities of the reconvened LHS task group. All the material and evaluations that have been developed up to this time should be placed in a readily retrievable form so that if a decision, in the future, is made to return to this study, it can be done quickly, building on the earlier effort of the task group. In carrying out this directive, the Project Office should take the lead in informing the States and Tribes of this decision and thanking them for their helpful participation in the study. HQ will inform the NRC.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me on FTS 896-9694.



Stephen H. Kale
Associate Director
for Geologic Repositories

RECEIVED

SEP 11, 1987

D.O.E.-RL/AMC DCC
87-DCC-1395

WM DOCKET CONTROL
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WM Record File

101

WM Project

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Docket No.

PDR

XPDR

(B)

Distribution:

Hinchman

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(Return to WM, 623-SS)

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