



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

OCT 3 1989

John Linehan, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level
Waste Management
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

This is in response to your letter dated September 18, 1989, in which requested 100 gallons of J-13 well water.

The Department of Energy headquarters has transmitted your request to the Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office). The Project Office will arrange collection of the 100 gallons of J-13 well water, with the NRC on-site representative.

Please complete the appropriate information on the enclosed Sample Request Form that is part of the Site Specific Procedural Agreement, Appendix 5, and return the completed form to us as soon as possible. The sample request form is intended to allow us to identify any special requirements that may apply to the collection and handling of samples requested, considering their end use. In this case, the Project Office will process your request; however, we request that NRC submit the a completed Sample Request Form with future requests.

If you have any questions or comments on this matter, please contact Mr. Steven H. Rossi of my staff on 586-9433.

Sincerely,

Gordon Appel, Chief
Licensing Branch
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure: Site Specific Procedural Agreement, Appendix 5

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Appendix 5

ACQUISITION OF SITE-SPECIFIC SAMPLES DURING SITE INVESTIGATION AND SITE CHARACTERIZATION BY NRC CONTRACTORS

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) contractors need, in some instances, site-specific samples of rock, minerals, and ground water or brine from sites being studied by the Department of Energy (DOE) as potential geologic repositories for high-level radioactive waste. The NRC contractors need such samples to carry out selected independent site-specific investigations and relevant research supporting the NRC's licensing responsibilities. The DOE will support these projects with site-specific samples to the extent practicable.

In order to facilitate satisfying NRC requests for site-specific samples with a minimum of inconvenience to all parties, the following points are agreed to:

1. Each DOE field project office will identify their designee to the respective NRC Project Section Leader and, where available, the NRC onsite representative (OR), for all communication concerning the procurement of site-specific samples by NRC contractors.
2. Written requests to the DOE for site-specific samples for NRC contractors will originate from the NRC Project Section Leader and will be transmitted by letter to the DOE field project office manager for that site in sufficient time for the DOE to review the request and, if approved, to prepare the sample. A copy will be provided to the OR when one is assigned for the site. The DOE field project office designee shall acknowledge receipt of all requests by letter.
3. The DOE retains the right to decline requests in cases where the requested samples are needed by the DOE to fulfill its site characterization responsibilities, when the requested samples are scarce or prohibitively expensive to collect, or when the request seriously impairs the DOE's schedule or program for site characterization. See also points 10 and 11 concerning management resolution of any problems on this point.
4. In order to assure that appropriate samples will be available prior to transmitting a written request, the NRC Project Section Leader, or designee, should consult with the DOE field project office designee for the particular site as to sample availability. Inquiries on sample availability can be answered on the basis of current site inventory records. If samples are not available, the DOE will arrange for their acquisition providing such requests are within the DOE plans for site investigation and site characterization. See point 6 below.
5. All written requests for samples shall include pertinent information such as the name of the laboratory, the designated laboratory contact, the timeframes within which samples are needed and testing will be performed and the date that any uncontaminated core samples that have not been destroyed by planned testing will be returned. An

example of a sample request form is attached. To the extent practicable, the request should be accompanied by documents that explain the purpose of the tests such as the NRC statement of work for the project, a written description or specification for the testing procedure to be used, any special sample collection, preservation, handling, or transportation requirements, and expected methods for interpretation of results. This will help ensure that the samples provided by the DOE are appropriate for the tests planned by the NRC contractor. The NRC-approved quality assurance program for the laboratory performing the investigation shall accompany all initial NRC requests for samples for that laboratory.

6. All requests for samples not already available, e.g., core from new boreholes, must sufficiently precede the NRC contractor's need so that samples can be collected within the DOE's site characterization program and at a reasonable convenience to DOE field project offices. The DOE will provide as much flexibility in scheduling sample collection and responding to requests as possible within current program schedules. Accordingly, for samples not already available or planned for under the DOE's plans, adequate advance notice will be needed to incorporate the request for new samples into the site investigation and characterization program. This advance notice must also allow for preparation and submittal to the State for an application for authorization, where required, to remove the sample from the State and for securing the necessary approval.
7. The DOE field project office designee will provide a sample description document with the sample(s) to assist the NRC contractor in ascertaining the compatibility of the sample with the specific test. The sample description document shall provide pertinent information on the sample, such as sample designation, data collected, date collected, description of sample, person collecting sample, depth collected, stratigraphic unit sampled, sampling techniques and conditions, initial measurements of properties at the time of sample collection, results of any subsequent tests or measurements, any methods of preservation or special handling, and proposed method of shipment to the NRC contractor. The NRC should identify any special methods and conditions for shipping samples.
8. The NRC contractor will normally return to the DOE facility that furnished the sample, through the NRC Project Section Leader, a reciprocal sample description document with pertinent information such as sample designation, a description of the sample as received, preparation or treatment of the sample prior to testing, initial readings prior to testing, any modifications to testing procedure or apparatus, testing results, quality control checks, significant observations during testing, interpretation of test results, and disposition of sample(s) after testing. Uncontaminated core samples that have not been destroyed by planned tests will be returned to the DOE as soon as practicable after use.

9. In implementing each of the above provisions, there should be a free exchange of information. Telephone communications to coordinate activities and discuss sampling schedules and testing are encouraged between the NRC or NRC contractors and designated DOE representatives. Requests for actions requiring significant expenditure of DOE or DOE contractor man-hours must be made in writing by the NRC Project Section Leader.
10. The DOE will pay reasonable costs associated with sample collection, preservation, handling, and transportation. The DOE field project office designee will identify any extraordinary costs which may require resolution on a case-by-case basis under point 11.
11. The DOE field project office designee will identify any requests which cannot be met, including the basis for such conclusions, to the DOE field project office and NRC Project Section Leader for resolution on a case-by-case basis at the next management meeting as specified under Section 2b of the Procedural Agreement.

SAMPLE REQUEST FORM

Please type or print

Date of Request _____

Requester: Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Is Requestor a DOE Project Subcontractor? Yes _____ No _____

If yes: Contract Number _____

Expiration Date _____

If no: Funding Source _____

Contract Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Samples Requested

Core Sample(s)

Well ID _____

Depth Interval Requested _____

Soil Sample(s) Full Core _____ Half Core _____ Quarter Core _____ Other _____

Well ID _____

Sample Type: Shelby Tube _____ Drive _____ Pitcher _____ Bulk _____ Other _____

Depth Interval Requested _____

Quantity _____

Water Sample(s)

Well ID _____

Depth Interval Requested _____

Quantity _____

SAMPLE REQUEST FORM (CONTINUED)

Time Frame

Date Samples Needed _____

Time Required to Complete Testing/Analysis _____

Time Required to Publish Results _____

Format of Results _____

Objectives of Tests to be Performed _____

Test Method _____

Use/Need for Test Data/Information in Geologic Repository Program _____

Preparation, Packaging, Transportation Requested

Preparation Procedure _____

Packaging Procedure _____

Transportation Procedure _____

Sample to be Shipped to:

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Comments: Also, please attach any additional materials, such as test plans.