



## Department of Energy

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management WBS 1.2.5.2  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office QA: N/A  
P.O. Box 98608  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

SEP 16 1994

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief  
High-Level Waste and Uranium  
Recovery Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

EXPLORATORY STUDIES FACILITY (ESF) TITLE II DESIGN REVIEW  
PACKAGE 2B RESPONSES TO U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)  
COMMENTS (SCPB: N/A)

Reference: Ltr, Holonich to Shelor, dtd 2/18/94

This letter responds to the NRC's observation of ESF Design Review Package 2B (reference), in conjunction with several verbal requests by NRC staff members to have formal responses to NRC's observations on Package 2B transmitted to NRC's observers.

As we explained in letters to you on November 22, 1993, and April 2, 1993 (enclosures 1 and 2), we welcome and encourage NRC's participation as an observer of these reviews. We wish to again explain how questions and observations by NRC's design review observers are considered in the course of our ESF design package reviews. The observers of ESF design reviews are not members of the design review team. They are observers. For observers, the design review is not intended to be an interactive meeting where comments can be brought forward by observers. To handle observers' questions, the U.S. Department of Energy holds a meeting at the end of each day, and the observers are invited to ask questions, make observations, and seek additional explanation.

The purpose of these meetings is to collect observers' questions and to respond to them either immediately or to arrange that questions are responded to on the following day, or before the end of the design review. At these meetings, discussions take place between the observer, the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office's ESF Design Team leader, and the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management System Management and Operating Contractor (CRWMS M&O), during which time additional information is provided that could verbally resolve the

YMP-5

000010  
9409290341 940916  
PDR WASTE  
WM-11 PDR

102.8  
wm-11  
NH03

SEP 16 1994

observer's questions or concerns. If they cannot be answered with additional information, they are accepted as either nonmandatory or mandatory comments on the design package. Observer questions thereby enter the design review's comment resolution record through adoption by the CRWMS M&O regulatory reviewer.

We understand that not all of NRC's observations were responded to prior to the end of the design review meeting for Package 2B. These responses have been provided to NRC staff informally, which remains our method to respond to observers' questions and observations. The record package for the design review holds the formal resolutions for comments that are adopted into the review.

Our model for how future design reviews proceed is intended to be like the 90 percent review for Package 2C, where most of the NRC's staff's observations were responded to prior to the end of the design review meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact either Thomas W. Bjerstedt of my staff at (702) 794-7590, or Norman T. Simms, CRWMS M&O, at (702) 794-7314.



Stephan J. Brocoum  
Assistant Manager for  
Suitability and Licensing

AMSL:TWB-5003

Enclosures:

1. Ltr, 11/22/93, Shelor to Holonich,  
w/encl
2. Ltr, 4/2/93, Roberts to Holonich,  
w/encl

SEP 16 1994

cc w/encls:

R. A. Milner, HQ (RW-30) FORS  
C. A. Kouts, HQ (RW-36) FORS  
C. E. Einberg, HQ (RW-36) FORS  
Samuel Rousso, HQ (RW-40) FORS  
R. R. Loux, State of Nevada,  
Carson City, NV  
T. J. Hickey, State of Nevada,  
Carson City, NV  
Cyril Schank, Churchill County,  
Fallon, NV  
D. A. Bechtel, Clark County,  
Las Vegas, NV  
J. D. Hoffman, Esmeralda County,  
Goldfield, NV  
Eureka County Board of Commissioners,  
Eureka, NV  
B. R. Mettam, Inyo County,  
Independence, CA  
Lander County Board of Commissioners,  
Battle Mountain, NV  
Jason Pitts, Lincoln County, Pioche, NV  
V. E. Poe, Mineral County, Hawthorne, NV  
L. W. Bradshaw, Nye County, Tonopah, NV  
P. A. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County,  
Chantilly, VA  
William Offutt, Nye County, Tonopah, NV  
Florindo Mariani, White Pine County,  
Ely, NV  
P. M. Dunn, M&O/TRW, Vienna, VA  
S. E. LeRoy, M&O/Duke, Las Vegas, NV  
N. T. Simms, M&O/Duke, Las Vegas, NV  
K. J. Lobo, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV  
J. M. Replogle, YMSCO, NV  
B. J. Verna, YMSCO, NV  
S. J. Brocoum, YMSCO, NV  
R. V. Barton, YMSCO, NV



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

NOV 22 1993

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing & Quality Assurance
Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

The 90 percent design review for Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Package 2B will begin on December 13, 1993. You will receive a preliminary, predecisional copy of the design package documentation on or about December 13, 1993, and a design review meeting will be held on January 5-7, 1994, at the Holiday Inn, 325 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The enclosure explains the process by which the U.S. Department of Energy will conduct this and future ESF design reviews. The design review begins with the design package being mailed out to all of the reviewers and interested observers. Included in the mailing will be an overview of the package and instructions for the reviewers. The design review meeting (three days) follows in two weeks with the first day providing a complete overview of the design package and process. The last two days consist of a formal presentation of the package by the actual designers covering the design input used, the assumptions made, applicable codes and specifications, any analyses, and the resulting design output.

We welcome and encourage your participation as an observer for this review. While the design review is not an interactive meeting where comments can be brought forward by observers, we will be continuing our previous practice of holding a short meeting with the observers at the end of each day of design review. The purpose of this short meeting is to collect observations and respond to those observations either immediately or to ensure that questions are answered the following day. As in the past, significant comments will be included by the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project regulatory reviewer in his formal comment package.

1-350604

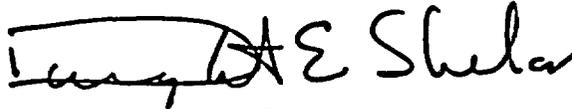
Handwritten signature

9312070294 4pp.

ENCLOSURE 1

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Einberg of my staff at (202) 586-8869.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwight E. Shelor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the name.

Dwight E. Shelor  
Associate Director  
Office of Systems and Compliance  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management

Enclosure:  
Revised Design Review Process

cc: w/enclosure  
R. Nelson, YMPO  
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee  
R. Loux, State of Nevada  
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV  
Eureka County, NV  
Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV  
L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV  
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV  
W. Offutt, Nye County, NV  
C. Schank, Churchill County, NV  
F. Mariani, White Pine County, NV  
V. Poe, Mineral County, NV  
J. Pitts, Lincoln County, NV  
J. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV  
B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA

## **M&O Revised Design Review Process**

• The M&O currently holds major design reviews at the 50% and 90% points of the design. The new process, described below, is intended to improve the quality of the review by providing the review package to the reviewers prior to the actual review meeting. Previously, the design review packages were distributed at the design review meeting. In the future, packages will be mailed out two weeks prior to the design review meeting. The sequence of events for the design review process will be as follows:

1. Mail the design package to reviewers and interested observers. Day 1
  - Contains overview and instructions on reviewing the package
2. Reviewers/Observers familiarize themselves with package. Day 2 - 14 (two weeks)
3. Design Review Meeting. Day 15 - 17 (three days)
  - Complete overview of design package and process (one day)
  - Formal presentation of package, page-by-page (two days)
  - All completed comments that do not require revision as a result of attending the presentation may be submitted at the end of three day meeting.
4. Reviewers finalize any comments that might have changed as a result of attending the design review meeting. Day 18 - 20 (three days overlap)
5. Responses to comments prepared. Day 17 - 31 (two weeks)
  - Prepare redlines to documents, if required
  - Time depends on number of comments
6. Responses mailed to reviewers. Day 31
7. Reviewers review modified documents and responses. Day 31 - 38 (one week)
8. Comment Resolution Meeting. Day 38 -39 (1 - 2 days)
  - If required

The above process is the implementation of QAP 3-14, Technical and Management Reviews, which governs how the M&O conducts design reviews. The comment resolution process will continue to follow QAP 3-1, Technical Document Reviews.

**ENCLOSURE**

**90% DESIGN REVIEW  
DESIGN PACKAGE 2B  
NORTH RAMP STUDIES, ANALYSES AND SPECIFICATIONS**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

| <b>Date</b>                  | <b>Time</b>   | <b>Location</b>                                       | <b>Purpose</b>  |
|------------------------------|---------------|---|---|
| December 13, 1993            | N/A           | N/A   | Mail Review Packages  |
| December 14-23, 1993         | N/A           | N/A   | Reviewers examine package                                   |
| January 5, 1994<br>Wednesday | 8:30a - 4:30p | Holiday Inn<br>325 E. Flamingo Rd<br>Las Vegas Nevada | Design Review Meeting, overview                             |
| January 6, 1994<br>Thursday  | 8:00a - 5:00p | Room 450  | Package Presentation  |
| January 7, 1994<br>Friday    | 8:00a - 5:00p | Room 450  | Package Presentation Completed<br>comments may be turned in |
| January 10, 1994             | 5:00p         | N/A   | Final Comments due  |
| January 7-14, 1994           | N/A           | N/A   | Comment response preparation                                |
| January 14, 1994             | N/A           | N/A   | Responses mailed to reviewers                               |
| January 17-21, 1994          | N/A           | N/A   | Reviewers review responses                                  |
| January 24, 1994             | 8:00a - 5:00p | Room 450  | Comment Resolution Meeting, if required                     |



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585  
APR 2 1993

APR 19 10 36 AM '00

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director  
Repository Licensing & Quality Assurance  
Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) wishes to inform you of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office's (YMPO) intention to perform an independent technical design review of the Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Title II Design Package 2: North Portal Ramp (Surface to Topopah Spring Level). This review is being done at the 50 percent complete stage and will be followed by an additional review at the 90 percent complete stage.

The 50 percent design review is scheduled to commence at 8:30 a.m. on April 19, 1993, in Room 10 of the Science Applications International Corporation Training Center at 101 Convention Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada. The review will conclude by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 1993. This design review is limited to the drawings, design studies, and specifications related to Design Package 2: North Portal Ramp (Surface to Topopah Spring Level). The basis of the review will be the regulatory, geologic, and engineering/design considerations appropriate to the scope of Design Package 2. The April 12, 1993, design review announcement you received previously dealt only with surface facilities (Design Package 1B).

We welcome and encourage your participation as an observer for this review. While the design review is not an interactive meeting where comments and questions can be brought forward by

I-340448  
BAM  
4/2/93

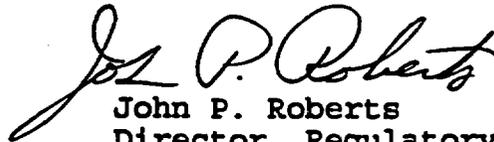
~~9284080068~~ 3 pp.

ENCLOSURE 2

observers, we will be continuing our previous practice of holding a short meeting with the observers at the end of each day of design review. The purpose of this short meeting is to collect observations and respond to those observations either immediately or ensure that questions are answered the following day. As in the past, significant comments will be included by the YMP regulatory reviewer in his formal comment package.

We would appreciate it if you would notify Sheila Long at (202) 586-1447, if you plan to attend.

Sincerely,



John P. Roberts  
Director, Regulatory Compliance  
Division  
Office of Systems and Compliance  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management

cc:

C. Gertz, YMPO  
T. J. Hickey, Nevada Legislative Committee  
R. Loux, State of Nevada  
D. Bechtel, Las Vegas, NV  
Eureka County, NV  
Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV  
P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV  
W. Offutt, Nye County, NV  
C. Schank, Churchill County, NV  
F. Mariani, White Pine County, NV  
V. Poe, Mineral County, NV  
J. Pitts, Lincoln County, NV  
J. Hayes, Esmeralda County, NV  
B. Mettam, Inyo County, CA  
C. Abrams, NRC