



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

OCT 25 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: R. F. Fraley, Executive Director  
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

FROM: Victor Stello, Jr.  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SECOND ACNW MEETING FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

Enclosed are our responses to the pertinent items from your August 8, 1988 list of "Actions, Agreements, Assignments, and Requests" from the July 21-22, 1988 meeting of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW). Specifically, we are providing:

1. A copy of the letter transmitting to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), for its consideration, your letter of July 27, 1988 to me, on outstanding questions arising from the visit, last year, of the Waste Management Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, to the Yucca Mountain candidate repository site. (See Item 1, "Reports, Letters and Memoranda.") In addition to transmitting your comments to DOE, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff will consider these ACNW comments in the upcoming review of DOE's Site Characterization Plan.
2. A copy of the letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting comments on the NRC staff Draft Generic Technical Position (GTP) on "Guidance for Determination of Anticipated Processes and Events and Unanticipated Processes and Events." You will note from this letter that identical letters were sent to DOE and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), as requested in ACNW Chairman Moeller's August 1, 1988 letter to Chairman Zech. (See Item 2, "Reports, Letters and Memoranda.")
3. Copies of public comments received on the above GTP as of October 6, 1988. EPA and USGS officials have informed Division of High-Level Waste Management staff that comments are forthcoming. The staff will provide these comments to the ACNW when we receive them. The NRC staff will evaluate these comments to determine whether to proceed with a proposed rulemaking based on the GTP. The staff's evaluation will be incorporated into the supporting documentation for that decision, which will be made available to the ACNW. In addition, copies of public comments received on the draft Technical Position on "Environmental Monitoring of Low-Level Waste Disposal Facilities" are enclosed. (See Item 7., "Other Actions, Agreements, Assignments and Requests.")
4. A copy of the CNWRA's overall Research Project Plan was sent to the ACNW on October 7, 1988. However, the NRC staff's choice of words in the briefing to the ACNW on July 21 may have led to an incorrect interpretation, namely, that this plan is the Center's integrated Research Program. The overall Research Project Plan only describes

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the approach to a technically informed selection and the subsequent development of research plans to resolve and/or reduce technical uncertainties in the high-level waste repository licensing program. The CNWRA's integrated research plan, however, will be a deliverable from the program architecture development (see Enclosure 5, Step 18 of the "Program Architecture Process" diagram). It will recommend research that the CNWRA believes is required to reduce those uncertainties identified during the course of the program architecture development. NRC directed the CNWRA to develop individual project plans for research in Fiscal Year 1988. These project plans are in various stages of development. (See Item 8., "Other Actions, Agreements, Assignments and Requests.")

Victor Stello, Jr.  
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosures:

1. Letter to Stein from Linehan dated October 7, 1988
2. Letter to EPA, DOE, and USGS, dated August 17, 1988
3. Comments received on Anticipated/Unanticipated technical position
4. Comments received on draft environmental monitoring technical position for low-level waste disposal facilities
5. Program Architecture Program Diagram

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Original signed by  
Victor Stello

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\*See previous concurrence:

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