

memorandum

DATE: July 3, 1986

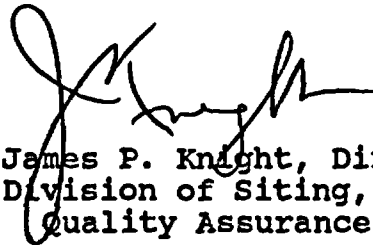
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REPLY TO
ATTN OF: RW-24

SUBJECT: Distribution of WMPO QA Correspondence

TO: Don Vieth, WMPO-NUO

Your memo of June 10, 1986 to Donald T. Oakley, Subject: "Suspension of Los Alamos National Laboratories Work...", failed to cc: the HQ-OGR QA Manager, Mr. Carl Newton. In the future please be sure that Mr. Newton is copied for all QA-related correspondence from your office. You may also omit my name from the distribution list.



James P. Knight, Director
Division of Siting, Licensing, and
Quality Assurance

cc: J. Blaylock, WMPO-NUO

WM Record File <u>102.2</u>	WM Project <u>11</u>
	Docket No. _____
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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

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Donald T. Oakley
Technical Project Officer for NNWSI
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Post Office Box 1663
Mail Stop F-671
Los Alamos, NM 87545

SUSPENSION OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORIES (LOS ALAMOS) WORK ON NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT ACTIVITIES (WMPO ACTION ITEM NO. 86-1401)

The enclosed surveillance report details the results of a Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) Quality Assurance (QA) Surveillance (WMPO/NV-SR-86-025) conducted at Los Alamos, on February 26-27, 1986. The purpose of the surveillance was to determine the status of the NNWSI Project Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) activities to determine whether proposed Quality Assurance Level Assignments have been reviewed and approved by WMPO, as required by NVO-196-17, Revision 3, prior to implementation.

The enclosed report includes one Nonconformance (NCR No. WMPO-10) which identifies that Los Alamos is operating with either unapproved quality assurance level assignments or no quality assurance level assignments.

Please review the NCR and respond, in accordance with SOP-15-01, within 30 working days after receipt of this letter. In your response, provide the necessary disposition, the action to be taken to preclude recurrence of the nonconformance, and the schedules for completion of the corrective action.

Requests for approvals of Quality Assurance Level Assignment shall be submitted to WMPO with the support package agreed to during the QA Level Assignment Sheet (QALAS) Workshop meetings at Science Applications International Corporation during April 2, 9-10, 1986 using the criteria established during the meeting. The Quality Assurance Level assignments are to be accomplished in accordance with the Interim Change Notice (ICN) for NVO-196-17, Rev. 4, SOP-02-01, and SOP-03-03.

By copy of this letter, you are directed to immediately suspend all Los Alamos work related to NNWSI Project technical activities for which WMPO approval of quality levels has not been obtained with the following exceptions:

1. All administrative work necessary to obtain WMPO approval of quality levels in response to NCR WMPO-10.
2. Planning, both internal and as part of the preparation of the Site Characterization Plan (SCP), the Exploratory Shaft Test Plan (ESTP), the Environmental Assessment (EA), and the Seismic Tectonic Position Paper (WMPO:MBB-579).

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3. Administrative/management work, with the exception of procurement of equipment, materials, supplies, and services to be used in technical activities unless such procurement can be shown to be critical to the success of those technical activities allowed to continue. If so, the details, including the quality requirements to be applied, shall be provided to WMPO for concurrence prior to proceeding.

*4. Work for which the suspension would cause an irrecoverable loss of information.

*5. Work in progress on degradable samples or features and laboratory measurements on "natural-state" samples that would degrade if the measurements were interrupted.

6. Preparation and processing of abstracts for meeting if the submission deadline is July 1986 or earlier. These abstracts must be specifically identified and the pertinent information, including manpower resources required, must be provided to the WMPO for evaluation of the impact on resources required to achieve implementation of the QA Program, specifically Quality Level Assignments.

7. Prototype testing, experimentation, and other research intended to develop and/or evaluate techniques or procedures provided these activities have been approved by WMPO as Quality Assurance Level III. Continuance of these activities must not prevent adequate manpower resources from being applied to the implementation of the QA Program requirements.

This suspension of work also applies to NNWSI Project related activities currently being performed for Los Alamos by subcontractors unless the work can be clearly exempted as described above.

*Specific activities in these categories or others that Los Alamos strongly believes should be allowed to continue must be identified to WMPO in writing within 10 working days after receipt of this letter. The information to be provided must include the following:

- o Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) task title and numbers
- o Principle Investigator
- o Justification/rationale of why the work must proceed
- o Controls/procedures to be used to assure the data meets QA program requirements

Achieving the WMPO approval of Quality Assurance Levels shall be given the highest priority of Los Alamos personnel assigned to NNWSI Project activities at this time. The exceptions stated above shall be given priority when assigning Quality Assurance Levels. Los Alamos personnel shall be redirected to the adequate implementation of the requirements of NVO-196-17 and SOP-02-02 relative to the assignment and approval of Quality Assurance Levels. Upon WMPO approval, in writing, of the quality assurance level for each activity

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the suspension on that activity will automatically be lifted. The NCR will be closed when all of the elements of the WMPO approved corrective actions proposed in the response to the NCR are implemented and verified by WMPO.

Any questions related to the above are to be addressed to James Blaylock, Project Quality Manager, at FTS 575-1125.

Donald L. Vieth
Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office

WMPO:JB-1061

Enclosure:
As stated

- cc w/encl:
- V. J. Cassella, DOE/HQ (RW-23), FORS
 - V. F. Witherill, NTSO, Mercury, NV
 - A. R. Veloso, NTSO, Mercury, NV
 - J. R. Rinaldi, QAD, DOE/NV
 - L. W. Gage, DOE/AL
 - S. H. Klein, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV
 - A. E. Cocoros, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV
 - P. R. Guthals, Los Alamos, NM
 - M B. Blanchard, WMPO, DOE/NV
 - L. P. Skousen, WMPO, DOE/NV
 - James Blaylock, WMPO, DOE/NV
 - D. L. Krenz, DOE/AL
 - H. E. Valencia, DOE/Los Alamos
 - W. J. Purcell, DOE/HQ (RW-20) FORS
 - J. P. Knight, DOE/HQ (RW-23) FORS ←
 - C. L. West, OPA, DOE/NV