



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Reply to:
1050 East Flamingo Rd.
Suite 319
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
Tel: (702) 388-6125
FTS: 598-6125

86 JUN 10 PZ

TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director
FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. OR - NNWSI
DATE: June 6, 1986
SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Reports

Please find enclosed the above-referenced reports received in this office this date, i.e., for weeks ending May 22 and May 29, 1986.

nan for PTP

Enclosures

cc: J. J. Linehan
K. Stablein
S. G. Bilhorn

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WM Record File

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WM Project 11

Docket No. _____

PDR

LPDR

Distribution:

KEB MJB

JOB DRM

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

NSB Kennedy

Justus JTC

MRK Coplan

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PDR WASTE
WM-11 PDR

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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

MAY 30 1986

William J. Purcell, Director, Office of Geologic Repositories, DOE/HQ
(RW-20), FORS

NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 29, 1986.

I. Project Manager's Concerns

The following concerns have been reported previously on Weekly Highlights reports.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>First Report Date</u>
1. Letter to Barrett dated December 24 requested which states are prepared to work in cooperative mode (informal agreement) with Transportation Department; also requested language that could be used in grant to the State in the area of transportation (86-450)	Due January 13, 1986 Open. Philpott to call WMPO.	12/26/86
2. Request for Benson to define when site characterization phase actually begins. (86-517)	Due January 13, 1986 Awaiting memo from DOE/HQ confirming telecon with Benson	01/15/86
3. Letter to Knight dated February 13 asks for guidance on how to address the difference between the NRC definition of the "engineered barrier" and the Program's baseline position (86-714).	Due March 6	02/20/86
4. Letter to Knight dated February 13 requests clarification of proposed time frame for NRC Audit of WMPO before initiating site characterization; is it tied to a specific NWPA event? (86-715)	Due March 6	02/20/86

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| 5. Letter to Knight dated March 25 requests HQ help in obtaining available NRC information regarding criteria, restrictions, and analyses relating to overflight of licensed facilities by aircraft. (86-958) | Due May 6 | 03/27/86 |
| 6. Letter to Knight dated April 3 requests HQ guidance on HQ involvement in NRC/Project procedures for implementing Morgan-Davis agreement. (86-1032) | Due April 15 | 04/10/86 |
| 7. Letter to Gale dated April 3 requests formal guidance on psychological factors related to monitoring and mitigation planning. (86-1029) | Due April 24 | 04/10/86 |
| 8. Letter to Gale from Dixon dated April 18 requests clarification of guidance on OMB regulations governing collection of information by Federal agencies (86-1107) | Due May 9 | 04/24/86 |
| 9. In a letter dated April 22 to D. Alexander, M. Blanchard requested that the Office of Geologic Repositories authorize the Project to deviate from baseline Document OGR/B-5. (86-1145) | Due May 13 | 05/01/86 |

II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

On May 28, an all-day Nevada Legislature's Committee on High-level Radioactive Waste meeting was held. Don Schueler presented a statement from the "Recommendation by the Secretary of Energy of Candidate Sites for Site Characterization for the First Radioactive Waste Repository," at 10:00 a.m., simultaneous with President Reagan's announcement in Washington, D. C. of the three selected sites. The announcement was greeted with a lack of emotion. A presentation by Bill Olmstead of

the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was well received. Some questions were raised about Nevada Test Site weapons tests and shipment of spent fuel from the E-MAD facility to Idaho Falls. Olmstead confirmed that casks used for the shipment of the spent fuel were NRC-licensed and Schueler assured that the DOE accepts liability if there is an accident. Approximately 25 people attended, consisting of mostly press and participants.

The Environmental Assessment reference verification effort was completed (Milestone R153). The deliverable is a two-volume checklist, summary, and instructions on how to use it.

Robert Levich has joined the Regulatory and Site Evaluation Branch of the Waste Management Project Office (WMPO). He will be involved with the NRC Procedural Agreement and site evaluation activities.

The modified work plan and Quality Assurance Level Assignment Sheets for WBS 1.2.4.2.1.3 (Laboratory Rock Properties) were completed at Sandia and sent to WMPO for approval and comment.

In a Friday, May 23 newspaper article, Senators Paul Laxalt and Chic Hecht and Representative Barbara Vucanovich issued a statement vowing to prepare a report for President Reagan to point out the ways that DOE has failed to comply with the letter of the law (the Nuclear Waste Policy Act). They feel they have encountered "arbitrary and capricious bureaucracy which has ignored our legitimate concerns and frustrated us on every front."

Copies of the final Environmental Assessment and the site recommendation report were hand carried by WMPO staff members on May 28 to the Reno and Las Vegas offices of the Congressional delegation, Las Vegas City Council, Clark County Commissioners, North Las Vegas City Council, State Senator Thomas Hickey (Las Vegas), Paul Prestholt (Nuclear Regulatory Commission), the Governor, Nuclear Waste Policy Office, and State Legislature. On May 29, copies were delivered to other local governments in the county.

Transportation of 17 spent fuel elements from the Westinghouse E-MAD facility to Idaho National Engineering Laboratory at Idaho Falls has been postponed. Idaho is filing a new permit requesting a change in the transportation route. A temporary restraining order was filed in Las Vegas yesterday against the shipper, Tri-State Trucking.

The State of Nevada filed five lawsuits on May 28 with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. The suits allege that the DOE acted illegally in naming the three sites for site characterization.

MAY 30 1986

Don Vieth addressed a Las Vegas veteran's group on May 24. The talk was well received and the interested participants asked many questions.

III. Upcoming Events

A. Coordination Group Meetings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1. Wednesday-Thursday, June 11-12	Waste Package Coordination Group	Columbus, Ohio	L. Skousen, WMPO
2. Monday-Thursday, June 16-19	Institutional/ Socioeconomic Coordination Group	St. Louis, MO	W. Dixon, WMPO

B. HQ Meetings

1. Thursday-Friday June 5-6	Copper Containers Meeting	Washington, D.C.	M. Valentine, WMPO
2. Tuesday-Wednesday, June 3-4	OCRWM Internal Review	Washington, D.C.	B. West, WMPO
3. Wednesday-Thursday, June 4-5	Environmental Planning Meeting	Washington, D.C.	B. West, WMPO
4. Monday-Thursday, June 16-19	Exploratory Shaft Facility Meeting	Washington, D.C.	D. Irby, WMPO
5. Wednesday-Thursday June 18-19	Ad Hoc Corrosion Panel	Las Vegas	L. Skousen, WMPO

C. Internal Project and DOE/NV Meeting

1. Tuesday, June 3	SOC Meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
2. Wednesday, June 4	SOC Tour of Yucca Mountain	Nevada Test Site	U. Clanton, WMPO
3. Tuesday, June 17	DOE/NV Manager's Review	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
4. Tuesday-Thursday June 17-19	Systems Engineering Peer Review	Las Vegas	L. Skousen, WMPO
5. Tuesday-Wednesday July 1-2	PM-TPO Meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC

D. State and Public Interaction

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| 1. Friday, May 30 | Congressman Weaver
(Ore.) tour of Climax | Las Vegas | B. West,
WMPO |
| 2. Monday-Thursday,
June 16-19 | American Nuclear
Society Annual Meeting | Reno | --- |
| 3. Tuesday, June 17 | Nye County
Commissioner's Meeting | Tonopah | W. Dixon,
WMPO |
| 4. Friday, June 20 | Speech to MENSA
by Don Vieth | Las Vegas | B. West,
WMPO |
| 5. Wednesday-Friday,
June 25-27 | USNCTT Meeting,
Don Vieth | Washington,
D.C. | B. West,
WMPO |

E. NRC Interaction

None to report.

WMPO:WRD-1372



Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office



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II. Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Sufficient information has been developed during the performance allocation workshop to write the Site Characterization Plan Chapter 8. The workshops were held during the last four months.

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) has submitted an initial draft of the NNWSI Project Reference Information Base (RIB) for Project-wide review (concurrent with SNL internal review). This draft is intended to provide a sufficient example to establish the ultimate content and scope of the RIB and fulfills milestone R081.

Approximately 100 people attended a public hearing of the Nevada Commission on Nuclear Projects held in Las Vegas City Hall on May 15. The hearing was widely publicized by Citizens Alert using telephone banks, television advertisements, and newspaper coverage. Ben Rusche made a presentation and answered questions.

A draft requirements document has been prepared that covers Fenix & Scisson's (F&S) Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) design responsibilities. It was reviewed on May 20 with F&S ESF management staff and will be issued as an interim requirements document for documenting and controlling approved design input to F&S. A complete ESF Subsystem Design Requirements document that covers design input requirements for all ESF architect engineers is in preparation. A draft will be issued for Project participant review on June 16 and the final will be submitted for approval by NV.

Saga Exploration has given approval to WMPO to use Well VH-2 for in situ stress measurements.

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C. Internal Project and DOE/NV Meetings (continued)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
5. Monday-Wednesday, June 30-July 2	PM-TPO Meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC

D. State and Public Interaction

1. Saturday, May 24	Las Vegas Veteran's Group Speech - Don Vieth	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
2. Wednesday, May 28	Nevada Nuclear Com- mission on High-Level Radioactive Waste Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
3. Friday, May 30	Congressman Weaver (Ore.) tour of Yucca Mountain	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
4. Monday, June 2	Speech to Las Vegas Veteran's Group	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
5. Monday-Thursday, June 16-19	American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting	Reno	---
6. Thursday, June 19	Speech to MENSA Society, Don Vieth	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO

E. NRC Interaction

None to Report



Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office