



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

88110670
WM Project: WM-11
PDR yes
(Return to WM, 623-SS)

WM Record File: A-1165
LPDR yes

M

Dr. Robert M. Cranwell, Supervisor
Waste Management Systems Division 6416
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185

Subject: Comments on November 1987 Report for FIN A-1165

Dear Dr. Cranwell:

I have received your November 1987 monthly report for FIN A-1165 and would like to comment on the draft outlines of work proposed under Task 2, Identification and Analysis of Uncertainties, and Task 3, Probability Techniques:

- (1) The Task 2 outline is entitled "Uncertainty and Sensitivity Analysis Techniques for Computer Models: A Review." Although the contract does not explicitly require a letter or formal report with this specific title, the proposed work would appear to fit well under subtask 2.6 on data and parameter uncertainty. The outline is unclear in two respects. First, what is meant by "Integrated Analyses" (Section VIII of the report)? Second, the outline as a whole reads as if the report will discuss computational techniques in the absence of any consideration of what the end use of these techniques will be. It is unclear how the main sources of data and parameter uncertainty in high-level waste repository performance assessment will tie into the report. For example will the spatial variability of data be treated in this report?
- (2) An outline entitled "Techniques for Determining Probabilities of Events and Processes Affecting the Performance of Geologic Repositories: Recommended Techniques" was provided under subtask 3.2. A second outline provided for this subtask is simply a subset of the former. The larger outline is good, except that I would like to see reference made to potential applications at the Yucca Mountain, Nevada site throughout the report. If this is done, appendix B might be unnecessary. In any case appendices A and C are no longer necessary owing to passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act, and the Congressional mandate contained therein to characterize only the Yucca Mountain site.

By separate mail I have sent you four copies of the NRC's plans for review of Consultation Draft Site Characterization Plans. Please ensure that your key staff are broadly familiar with this review plan. I plan to have your staff work with NRC staff as requested on implementation of the performance assessment review guides. You should charge time spent on this type of interaction to Tasks 2 and 3, as appropriate.

8802160073
PDR WMRES 880113
A-1165 EXISANL
PDR

WM-RES
WM Record File
A1165
SNL

WM Project 11
Docket No. _____
PDR
LPDR (CN)

Distribution:

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

Dr. Robert M. Cranwell

-2-

For your information and use in completing work under FIN A-1165, I have enclosed a copy of a recently completed three-volume NRC contractor report on "Critical Parameters for a High-Level Waste Repository." Please pay particular attention to Volume 2 on Tuff.

The action taken by this letter is considered to be within the scope of the current contract (FIN A-1165). No changes to cost or delivery of contracted products are authorized. Please notify me immediately if you believe this letter would result in a change to the cost or delivery of contracted products.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Galson, Project Manager
Operations Branch
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: N. Ortiz, Division 6410, SNL (w/out encl)
P. Davis, Division 6416, SNL (w/out encl)
E. Bonano, Division 6416, SNL (w/out encl)

OFFICIAL CONCURRENCE AND DISTRIBUTION RECORD

LETTER TO: Dr. Robert M. Cranwell, Supervisor
Waste Management Systems Division 6416
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, NM 87185

FROM: Daniel A. Galson, Project Manager
Operations Branch, DHLWM/NMSS

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON NOVEMBER 1987 MONTHLY REPORT FOR FIN A-1165

DATE:

DISTRIBUTION WM 87503

HLOB r/f	PPrestholt
NMSS r/f	Br. Secy (original)
Central File ✓	DGalson & r/f
REBrowning	SCoplan
MJBell	NColeman
BYoungblood	JRandall, RES
RBallard	
JBunting	
JLinehan	
RJohnson	
KStablein	
DGillen	

CONCURRENCES

ORGANIZATION/CONCUREE	INITIALS	DATE CONCURRED
HLOB/ DGalson:vg	<u>DAQ</u>	01/13/88
HLOB/ SCoplan	<u>SC</u>	01/13/88

FROM SNL		DATE OF DOCUMENT 12/15/87	DATE RECEIVED 12/23/87	NO WM-87503
		LTR XX	MEMO	REPORT
		OTHER		
TO DGalson		ORIG.	CC XX	OTHER
		ACTION NECESSARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE ANSWERED
		NO ACTION NECESSARY <input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/>	BY 1/8-1/20
CLASSIF	POST OFFICE	FILE CODE: 426.1		
	REG. NO.			
DESCRIPTION (Must Be Unclassified) Nov 87 Report for fin A1165		REFERRED TO	DATE	RECEIVED BY
		BYoungblood	12/23	
		DGalson		
ENCLOSURES				
REMARKS <i>Action closed 1/13 by C. [unclear] to [unclear]</i>				