

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

NUCLEAR SYSTEMS SAFETY PROGRAM L-196

October 5, 1987

Mr. Michael E. Blackford, MS-623ss Project Officer, WMGT Geology/Geophysics Section Technical Review Branch Division of High-Level Management Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Monthly Management Letter Report No. 14
Progress for the Month of September 1987

NRC FIN A-0297

Technical Assistance in the Identification and Evaluation of Seismo-Tectonic Issues Related to

Repository Site Characterization Plans

Dear Mr. Blackford:

This is our Monthly Management Letter Report No. 14 under the subject NRC FIN Number A-0297.

1. PROGRESS - SEPTEMBER 1987

General:

A project coordination meeting was held in Silver Spring, MD on 29 September 1987.

BWIP:

A field trip program was conducted for a field review of exposures and trenches developed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation near O'Sullivan Dam and on Smyrna Bench on 30 September 1987. This field trip was preceded on 29 September 1987 by a field review of the geology of the Symrna Bench led by R. D. Bentley. Richard W. Galster participated in these field reviews. Galster's formal trip report is presently in preparation.

NNWSI:

We have had an informal opportunity to examine parts of the NNWSI SCP Chapters 1 and 8, at the NRC Office in Las Vegas, NV. H. Larry McKague prepared our informal list of comments. Our informal comments on these reviews have been presented to C. Abrams, the NRC lead geologist for the site, on 29 September 1987.

On 22-23 September 1987, we participated in the DOE briefing of NRC

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and the State of Nevada to summarize the seismo-tectonic strategies presented in the consultation draft of the NNWSI Project Site Characterization Plan. A pre-briefing meeting was held in the afternoon of 21 September 1987 at the NRC Office in Las Vegas, NV. At that time, the objectives and goals of the 22-23 September 1987 meetings were discussed. H. Larry McKague participated in these meetings. A full report on this meeting is being submitted under a separate cover.

SALTS:

The tectonics of the Amarillo-Wichita Uplift and associated geologic structures such as the Meers Fault, the Wichita Megashear, the Bravo and Bush Domes, and the Oldham-Harmon Trend need to be evaluated. We have initiated a program that will evaluate the tectonics of the Amarillo-Wichita Uplift and associated geologic structures. Dave W. Carpenter has been named our task leader. This work, once accomplished, will become a basis for future analysis and evaluation of the proposed HLW repository site at the Deaf Smith County and/or the Swisher County locations.

2. PLANS FOR NEXT MONTH

A full letter report of our work on geomorphic examinations of the NNWSI site at and near the location of the proposed shaft and ramp openings will be completed jointly by C. Rus Purcell and Ted Johnson of NRC.

A literature search and analysis program on the tectonics of the Amarillo-Wichita Uplift and associated geologic structures will continue for next few months.

Materials have been received for us to initiate and perform new tasks as follows: (1) Review the BWIP SCP-related documents (No. SD-BWI-TI-293, Rev. 0; No. GS-GW-101; and SD-BWI-ER-005), and (2) interpretation of SLAR imagery.

Our informal review of sections in Draft SCP's (a preliminary version) for the BWIP and the NNWSI sites will continue for the next few months.

3. ESTIMATED PROJECT FINANCIAL STATUS

See ATTACHMENT A. The Attachment A will become available in late October 1987. We will submit it when it becomes available.

4. LIST OF CONSULTANTS/SUBCONTRACTORS

D. B. Slemmons and Associates Robert D. Bentley Richard W. Galster Charles (Rus) Purcell Robert J. Wright

5. PROJECT CONCERNS

None.

Dae H. (Danny) Chung

Project Leader

Cummings NSSP Program Leader

cc: K. Anderson, LLNL/NSSP

Gary Peterson, DOE/SAN E. Davis, NRC/NMSS

J. M. Johnson, LLNL/NSSP P. S. Justus, NRC/WMGT J. S. Trapp, NRC/WMGT

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