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2-19-86

John Reuss, Deputy Chief
Division of Minerals Availability
U.S. Bureau of Mines
2401 E Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20241

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ITEMS IDENTIFIED DURING THE TASK ORDER 003 MEETING,
FEBRUARY 12, 1986

During our meeting on February 12, 1986, certain items pertaining to the Task Order 003 methodology report outline were identified that may further clarify and refocus the purpose, scope and limitations of the final report. Following extensive discussions throughout the meeting with Don Bleiwas and Nick Wetzel, it was generally agreed that the following items represent the guidance to proceed with the report. This is to transmit those items to assure clarity and continued understanding.

Items 1 through 4 provide general guidance to be continually considered during development of the report. Specific applications of these principles to selected portions of the outline, as well as additional comments on the outline, will follow under separate cover. Items 5 through 7 respond to open items identified by you prior to the meeting.

- 1) The purpose of the report is to assist NRC in providing guidance to the Department of Energy (DOE) to ensure sufficient application of natural resources evaluation methodologies during site characterization.
- 2) Data will be acquired for the purpose of evaluating the potential of a candidate site as a repository for high-level nuclear waste disposal.
- 3) Natural resources information will result from data acquired during Site Characterization conducted by DOE. Data will not be acquired for the purpose of locating natural resources.
- 4) Because of the site characterization nature of the data collection, geophysical data methods may have greater applicability and reliability for natural resources assessment.
- 5) Draft outline page 4, item 2.5.2: geostatistical vs. subjective probability methods will be more fully developed in the report.

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6) Regulatory Guide 4.17, page 4.17-16: the methodology report should utilize the 1980 version of the McKelvey diagram and not the 1976 version referenced in the Regulatory Guide.

7) I provided a copy of the Draft Site Characterization Plan during the meeting.

Should you find that these items are not consistent with your understanding, please have either Don Bleiwas or Nick Wetzel notify me immediately to rectify the inconsistency.

151

Richard Lee, Project Officer
Geotechnical Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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