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Hydrogeology • Mineral Resource Waste Management • Geological Engineering • Mine Hydrology

April 20, 1987
Contract No. NRC-02-85-008
Fin No. D-1020
Communication No. 122

Mr. Jeff Pohle
Division of Waste Management
Mail Stop 623-SS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: SALT

Dear Jeff:

A copy of the list of WIPP documents that Williams and Associates has received is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Gerry Winter, ref

Gerry V. Winter

GVW:sl

WIPP DOCUMENTS IN WILLIAMS AND ASSOCIATES' LIBRARY
APRIL 20, 1987

1. Basler, J.A., 1983, Instrumentation Used for Hydraulic Testing of Potential Water-Bearing Formations at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Site in Southeastern New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 83-144, 29 p.

2. Beauheim, R.L., November 1986, Hydraulic-Test Interpretations for Well DOE-2 at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Site. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND86-1364, 89 p.

3. Chapman, J.B., October 1986, Stable Isotopes in Southeastern New Mexico Groundwater: Implications for Dating Recharge in the WIPP Area. Health and Environment Department, New Mexico, EEG-35, 76 p.

4. Dennehy, K.F., January 1982, Results of Hydrologic Tests and Water-Chemistry Analyses, Wells H-6A, H-6B, and H-6C, at the Proposed Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Site, Southeastern New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations 82-8, 68 p.

5. Dennehy, K.F., and Davis, P.A., 1981, Hydrologic Testing of Tight Zones in Southeastern New Mexico. Ground Water, vol. 19, no. 5, p. 482-489.

6. Tests and Water-Chemistry Analyses, Wells H-5A, H-5B, and H-5C, at the Proposed Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Site, Southeastern New Mexico. U. S. Geological Survey, Water-Resources Investigation 82-19, 83 p.

7. Gonzalez, D.D., March 1983, Hydrogeochemical Parameters of Fluid-Bearing Zones in the Rustler and Bell Canyon Formations: Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Southeast New Mexico (SENM). Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND83-0210, 37 p.

8. Gonzalez, D.D., March 1983, Groundwater Flow in the Rustler Formation, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Southeast New Mexico (SENM): Interim Report. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND82-1012, 39 p.

9. Hydro Geo Chem, Inc., September 1985, WIPP Hydrology Program Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,, SENM, Hydrologic Data Report #1. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND85-7206, 710 p.

10. Hydro Geo Chem, Inc., October 1986, Two-Well Recirculation Tracer Tests at the H-2 Hydropad, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Southeastern New Mexico. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND86-7092, 33 p.

11. INTERA Technologies, Inc., June 1986, WIPP Hydrology Program, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Southeastern New Mexico: Hydrologic Data Report #3. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND86-7109.

12. INTERA Technologies, Inc. and Hydro Geo Chem, Inc., December 1985, WIPP Hydrology Program Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Southeastern New Mexico: Hydrologic Data Report #2. Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM and Livermore, CA, SAND85-7263.

13. Mercer, J.W., 1983, Geohydrology of the Proposed Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Site, Los Medanos Area, Southeastern New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations Report 83-4016, 112 p.

14. Mercer, J.W., Davis, P. Dennehy, K.F., and Goetz, C.L., May 1981, Results of Hydrologic Tests and Water-Chemistry Analyses, Wells H-4A, H-4B, and H-4C at the Proposed Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Site, Southeastern New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Investigations Report 81-36, 92 p.

15. Mercer, J.W., and Orr, B.R., February 1977, Review and Analysis of Hydrogeologic Conditions Near the Site of a Potential Nuclear-Waste Repository, Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 77-123, 35 p.

16. Rehfeldt, K., September 1984, Sensitivity Analysis of Solute Transport in Fractures and Determination of Anisotropy within Culebra Dolomite. Health and Environment Department, New Mexico, EEG-27, 46 p.

Tribe gets $2.7 million for nuclear waste program

The Nez Perce Tribe's Nuclear Waste Program has received a $2.7 million grant for 1987, program manager Ronald T. Halfmoon said Tuesday.

The money from the U.S. Department of Energy will allow the tribal program to pursue eight major projects, but does not yet resolve the issue of equipment needed for environmental monitoring, Halfmoon said.

But the grant will allow the program to add as many as seven new employees during the year and help with planning.

"It basically is an affirmation of the DOE's promise to award a certain dollar amount, and it's important to the administration because when that grant award comes in it's money in the bank," Halfmoon said.

The grant amount is about what the tribal program expected, and follows months of negotiations. The program had been funded on a temporary basis since last September, which had caused problems with planning, Halfmoon said.

The tribe receives funds for the program under terms of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, which gives affected states and tribes the right to money to study effects of a nuclear waste repository at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.

The DOE had disputed the tribe's right to funds for environmental monitoring and social and economic studies, saying such projects should not be done until the repository site is actually chosen. Hanford is one of three sites currently under consideration.

The DOE reconsidered that stance in early February, clearing the way for resolution of the grant. The tribe had requested about $1 million for the monitoring and social and economic studies.

Nuclear waste problem called political

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden – It is politics, not technology, that keeps the United States from resolving its nuclear waste problems, says Sen. James McClure, R-Idaho.

McClure wound up a two-day tour of Sweden's nuclear waste handling facilities Tuesday. "What we have seen in the past two days makes it abundantly clear that the nuclear waste issue in the United States is not a technological problem but a political problem," he said at a Stockholm news conference.

He said he's convinced that the United States can meet or better the technical solutions to nuclear waste disposal and storage found in Sweden. "The difference appears to be that Sweden can make rational decisions on nuclear waste that will last, while we in the United States cannot," he said.

McClure and other members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee toured Sweden's central interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel.

Data could disqualify Hanford as waste site

Is there no end to the Hanford revelations?

A few months ago 19,000 pages of reports were declassified and released by the U.S. Department of Energy. They documented massive radioactive emissions over the decades from the plutonium-producing reactors at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation that make the Three Mile Island and even Chernobyl contaminated emissions pale.

Now the Freedom of Information Act has been used to pry loose another 20,000 pages of Department of Energy reports, and their contents don't exactly inspire confidence in the management of our nuclear energy program and those who regulate it for our protection.

It reveals that billions of gallons of plutonium-contaminated cooling water were dumped into the soil at Hanford over four decades, enough to create mounds and divert groundwater. The net effect was to speed the course of that contaminated groundwater into the Columbia River.

Perhaps the only good to come from all this is to cause scientists to revise their estimate of the time it takes for contaminated groundwater to reach the Columbia — it won't be 1,000 years, or 20 years as many maintain, but perhaps as little as one year.

The time it takes for water to travel through volcanic basalts beneath Hanford will be a critical factor in determining which of the three proposed sites nationally gets the booby prize of being the nation's nuclear waste dumping ground.

Based on the contents of all these heretofore secret reports, Washington and the mighty Columbia have been holding the booby prize all along.

— Sandra Haarsager