

NUCLEAR WASTE CONSULTANTS INC.

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RS-NMS-85-009  
Communication No. 35

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Division of Waste Management  
Geotechnical Branch  
MS 623-SS  
Washington, DC 20555

Attention: Mr. Jeff Pohle, Project Officer  
Technical Assistance in Hydrogeology - Project B (RS-NMS-85-009)

Re: Subtask 2.4 - BWIP Conceptual Model Evaluations

Dear Mr. Pohle:

Please find attached a letter from Terra Therma, Inc. (TTI) to Nuclear Waste Consultants, Inc. (NWC) addressing the requirement of the Statement of Work for the Subtask 2.4 report to evaluate areas of uncertainty and areas of additional data needs. It is the position of the BWIP site team that a useful discussion of areas of uncertainty and data needs must be based on quantitative evaluations of current data concerning the site in the context of the likely performance of a deep geologic repository in the Columbia River Basalts of the Hanford site. Given the current lack of access to basic DOE site data such as base plans and elementary borehole geologic data, TTI/NWC have grave doubts that it will be useful to attempt to analyze data needs and assess areas of uncertainty in the time frame of the Subtask 2.4 report. TTI/NWC proposes that the discussions of areas of uncertainty and data needs be moved to Subtask 5, resulting in a logical division between descriptive (Subtask 4) and analytical (Subtask 5) work.

NWC concurs with TTI that this rearrangement of items will result in two stronger, stand-alone products for delivery to the NRC staff. In addition, NWC considers that the division will result in the most cost-effective use of team resources and in an accelerated schedule for completion of Subtask 2.4 and initiation of Subtask 2.5.

If we do not receive direction from the NRC Project Officer to the contrary, TTI/NWC will proceed with Subtask 2.4 as described in the attached letter and memo. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me immediately.

Respectfully submitted,  
NUCLEAR WASTE CONSULTANTS, INC.

*Mark J. Logsdon*  
Mark J. Logsdon, Project Manager

Att: Letter of March 7, 1986 - M. Galloway (TTI) to M. Logsdon (NWC)

WM-RES  
WM Record File  
D1021  
NWC I

WM Project 10, 11, 16  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Distribution:  
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# TERRA THERMA, INC.

## WATER CONSULTANTS AND ENGINEERS

8341 S. Sangre de Cristo Rd., Suite 6, Littleton, CO 80127 (303) 973-7492

March 7, 1986

Nuclear Waste Consultants  
8341 S. Sangre de Cristo Road  
Littleton, Colorado 80127

**Att: Mark Logsdon, Project Manager**

**Re: Adjustment in Scope of Work, Subtask 2.4**

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

In preparation for Subtask 2.4, Conceptual Models, the BWIP team has developed a strategy for preparation of this document. During our discussions, it became apparent that two of the topics requested in the Scope of Work (SOW) can be more adequately addressed during the preparation of Subtask 2.5.

Subtask 2.4 calls for the evaluation of conceptual models within the context of the various databases prepared as part of Subtask 2.2. The SOW requires the evaluation to include the following (page 10, SOW):

- A) Descriptions
- B) Illustrations
- C) Geologic, hydrologic, geophysical and hydrochemical bases
- D) Consideration of anticipated future conditions
- E) Discussion of areas of uncertainty
- F) Areas of additional data needs
- G) A detailed work plan for numerical evaluation of the conceptual models described under Subtask 2.5

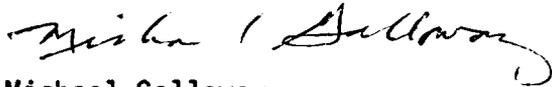
Items A through D will be primarily descriptive, based on existing literature and data. Some interpretation and analysis will be required, but will generally involve statistical manipulation rather than the various analytical or numerical methods. Item G will require familiarization with the analytical and numerical methods which may be necessary in Subtask 2.5, but the actual work plan will be descriptive.

Our primary concern with this task list is with Items E and F. Items E and F will require significant use of analytical or numeric modelling to be fully evaluated. We feel that it will be difficult to adequately address these items within Subtask 2.4 without significant analysis, and therefore, we propose to transfer these two tasks into Subtask 2.5 where emphasis is placed on modelling and analytical analysis. Moving items E and F to Subtask 5 will result in a more logical division between descriptive and analytical tasks and

should result in better products to the NRC. Reducing the scope of Subtask 2.4 should result in both fewer team hours and an earlier completion time. Subtask 2.4 is now due April 28, but without items E and F, the team hopes to complete the task by late March or early April, depending upon the availability of certain data.

If we can provide any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,  
TERRA THERMA, INC.



Michael Galloway  
Project Manager