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1050 East Flamingo Rd.
Suite 319
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
Tel: (702) 388-6125
FTS: 598-6125

TO: Mr. Robert E. Browning, Director
FROM: Paul T. Prestholt, Sr. On-Site Licensing Representative
DATE: November 26, 1986
SUBJECT: DOE Weekly Report

Please find enclosed the above-referenced report received in this office, i.e., for week ending November 21, 1986.

nan for PTP

Enclosure

cc: J. J. Linehan
K. Stablein
S. G. Bilhorn
S. Wastler

WM Record File
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WM Project 11
Docket No. _____
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Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office
P. O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

NOV 24 1986

Stephen H. Kale, Associate Director, Office of Geologic Repositories, DOE/HQ
(RW-20) FORS

NEVADA NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS (NNWSI) PROJECT WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 21, 1986.

I. Critical Items Status

Stop Work Order

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL)--Two major Quality Assurance (QA) implementing procedures, "Analysis Control and Verification" and "Design Control and Verification", were approved for issue and use. A training session was conducted to meet the requirement of the Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) for general familiarization of all personnel with the NNWSI Project. Section 7.0 (Control of Purchased Material, Equipment, and Services) of the QAPP was submitted to Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) for review and comment.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)--Changes in the status of the Scientific Investigation Planning (SIP) documentation and Quality Assurance Level Assignments (QALAs) are as follows:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Status</u>
Waste package environment	Second internal draft of the SIP is undergoing revision after technical review.
Waste form - spent fuel	Draft SIP is due for internal review on January 30, 1987.
Waste form - glass	SIP in internal review. Draft due to Waste Management Project Office (WMPO) on December 1, 1986.
Metals barriers	Draft SIP due for internal review on February 27, 1987.
Integrated testing	Draft SIP due for internal review on February 14, 1987.
Waste package design	Draft SIP in internal review, due to WMPO on November 21, 1986.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (Los Alamos)--Several issues involved in the preparation, review, and approval of the exploratory shaft facility (ESF) QALAs were resolved. Active work on the most recent revision of the ESF QALAs will not begin until NNWSI-SOP-02-02 is modified to reflect the new rule changes.

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)--SIP documentation for transportation and radiological monitoring were submitted to SAIC QA for transmittal to the WMPO.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)--SIP documentation and QALAs for hydro-chemical tracers for prototype testing are complete. The final draft of the paleoenvironmental SIP documents and QALAs were in review. Documentation is in various stages of review for the analog recharge activity of the paleohydrology plan and IDAS instrumentation portion of the surface-based deep UZ-hole plan. Work also continued on the hydrologic prototype SIP documentation. One draft is complete and ready for review, three drafts are in U.S. Bureau of Reclamation or USGS draft review, and six are in preparation. The bulk permeability test SIP documentation will be started in about one week.

Waste Package Strategy Document

LLNL is continuing work on Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Chapter 7 while evaluating issues for the strategy document and awaits written guidance from Headquarters (HQ) as to which is the highest priority.

Site Characterization Plan

The status of Permanent Internal Review Committee (PIRC) activities as of November 12 is as follows:

PIRC 1--Markup of Section 1.7 is completed with the exception of resolving a few comments. Markup of Section 1.8 is nearly complete. A draft of the Issue Resolution Strategy (IRS) for human intrusion has been completed. Drafts of the IRSs for erosion and for pre- and postclosure tectonics are in preparation. The November 20-21 PIRC meeting has been cancelled. Chapter 1 text will go directly to the Project Overview Committee (POC) for review.

PIRC 2--Chapter 2 is ready for POC review. The draft IRSs for Issues 1.15 and 4.7 were distributed for review on November 12. USGS comments on the pre- and postclosure IRSs for rock characteristics and associated information needs were distributed to PIRC members and will be revised based on USGS comments.

PIRC 3--PIRC members are completing comment resolution and the consolidated markup of Chapter 3 and related sections of Chapter 8. Revisions to Sections of 8.3 are on schedule; a revision of 8.3.1.2 (postclosure geohydrology) will be completed on November 21, 1986. PIRC 3 material should be ready for POC and PIRC 15 review in early to mid-December.

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PIRC 4--Chapter 4 is ready for PUC review. PIRC members are currently reviewing the geochemistry IRS and revised Information Needs.

PIRC 5--A draft of the IRS for climatic change is complete. Members are working on the consolidated markup of PIRC text. Chapter 5 text should reach production the week of November 17.

PIRC 6--Revisions to Section 6.4 and Sections of 8.3 are near completion.

PIRC 7--The DOE/HQ meeting on waste package postclosure compliance strategy is completed. A one-page set of agreements was developed at the close of the meeting.

The consolidated markup of Chapter 7 incorporating PIRC and DOE/HQ comments is being prepared. The Issue 1.4 material should be available before a meeting scheduled by DOE/HQ on November 24-25, 1986.

PIRC 8--PIRC members are reviewing material in preparation for a comment response meeting scheduled next week.

PIRC 9--Reference verification on Chapter 2 is nearly complete and Chapter 1 and 4 are in progress. Many references are missing.

PIRC 10--Minor revisions are being made to Sections 8.4 and 8.7.

PIRC 11--Format for Section 8.5 is being developed. Information is needed from Project participants on major milestones and what milestones feed other milestones; this data will also be needed in Section 8.3.

PIRC 12--Revisions to the PIRC text are underway with the exception of waste package material.

PIRC 13--Issues 1.9 and 2.5 have been revised. Revisions to Sections 1.8 and 4.1 are nearly finished. The revised PIRC package will go directly to PIRC 15 and the POC for review.

PIRC 14--The text of Sections 8.1 and 8.2 are nearly complete. Resolution of DOE/HQ comments will be attempted on a telecon. The text will then be ready for review by the POC and PIRC 15.

PIRC 15--Consistency review activities have begun. Available portions of Section 8.3 were distributed to PIRC 15 members for review.

PIRC 16--Chapters 1, 2, and 4 editorial consistency reviews have been completed.

PIRC 17--PIRC members are reviewing material in preparation for a comment response meeting to be held next week.

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An accelerated SCP schedule, a procedure for POC review, and a suggested list of POC reviewers were distributed to the Project on November 10, 1986. Chapter 2, 6, and Sections 8.3.2 and 8.3.3 were distributed to the POC subcommittee for their review. The comment resolution meeting will start on November 24, 1986.

Core Sample Management

The Sample Management Facility (SMF) task has been divided into eight work packages that are being costed individually in the work package plans. The costing is being done in detail for this task as an aid to management planning for the startup of the facility.

A meeting was held with the Nevada Test Site Support Office (NTSO) and Reynolds Electrical and Engineering Company, Inc. (REECo) personnel at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) to discuss the need and timing for cost estimates for converting the two warehouses to a dedicated sample management facility. REECo representatives indicated that cost estimates could be provided no sooner than December 15 due to higher priority items. NTSU also pointed out that the Project would be required to abide by the NTS labor contract if the SMF is located at the NTS, and these additional costs must be factored into our planning.

The first draft of SMF Technical Procedure No. 4, "Procedures for Collection, Labeling, and Handling of NNWSI Project Drill Site Samples," was completed and submitted for internal review. The SMF "activity plan" was revised and resubmitted for internal review.

I-A. Project Manager's Concerns

The following concerns have been reported previously on Weekly Highlights reports.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>First Report Date</u>
1. Letter to Knight dated March 25 requests HQ help in obtaining available NRC information regarding criteria, restrictions, and analyses relating to overflight of licensed facilities by aircraft. (86-958)	Due May 6, 1986.	03/27/86

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<u>Issue</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>First Report Date</u>
2. Draft NNWSI Project Charter sent to Cassella on June 26 to obtain necessary signatures from Headquarters personnel. (86-1573)	Due July 17, 1986.	07/03/86
3. Letter to Jelacic dated August 21 requests information about applicability of "A Guide to Radiological Accident Considerations for Siting and Design of Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Facilities" to Nuclear Waste Policy Act Program. (86-2126)	Due September 11, 1986.	10/31/86
4. Letter sent on September 9 to Alexander requests review and comment on the Project's SCP Permanent Internal Review Committee (PIRC) process. (86-2250)	Due September 30, 1986.	09/18/86
5. Letter to Stein requests a briefing be given on November 4 to Nevada Operations Office management by Resource Technology, Inc., concerning their recommendations on drilling activities for the nuclear waste isolation program. (87-252) Briefing postponed to end of November.	Due November 28, 1986.	10/24/86
6. Letter to Alexander requests level of effort support for Argonne National Laboratory in support of NNWSI Project SCP reference verification task as defined in an enclosed outline. (87-295)	Due November 6, 1986.	10/31/86

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First Report Issue	Status	Date
7. A letter to Roth dated October 23 requests that the Source Selection Official authority be delegated to T.R. Clark for the competitive selection of an architect/engineer contractor for the prospective Yucca Mountain radioactive waste repository.	Due November 13, 1986.	10/31/86
8. Letter dated November 4 to Isaacs requests breakdown of full-time equivalents (FTEs) shown in Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) budget by Project office and FY and highlights potential problem in that FY 87 Program Direction Budget covers only 27.9 FTEs for WMPU staff when 40 FTEs were agreed upon (87-373).	Due November 25, 1986.	11/14/86
9. Letter dated November 5 to Gale requests clear statement as to whether or not State of Nevada is required to comply with Office of Management and Budget regulations regarding information collection before WMPU can review Nevada's request for calendar year 1987. (87-395).	Due November 10, 1986.	11/14/86
10. Letter dated November 10 to Newton requests clarification of three areas in minutes of July 23-24 GACG meeting: 1) phasing of NQA-1 1986 into Project QA plans; 2) interpretation of QA administrative procedures; and 3) references to State and tribes and NRC participating on DOE audits. (87-404)	Due December 8, 1986.	11/14/86

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11. Letter dated November 12 to Stein requests OGR staff support for the SCP POC, specifically three individuals for particular assignments. The letter indicates that WMPD will assume this request is granted unless an immediate response to the contrary is received. (87-417) Due November 17, 1986. 11/14/86

Significant Accomplishments/Information Items

Los Alamos submitted the draft report "Minerals in Fractures of the Saturated Zone from Drill Core USWG-4, Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada," to the WMPD, fulfilling milestone R345.

SAIC met Milestone R677 by submitting the annual report documenting FY 86 QA activities for the Technical and Management Support Services.

SAIC transmitted the draft report "Social Impact Assessment: Review and Proposed Approach" to the WMPD for review, meeting Milestone R552.

An SNL report entitled "An Evaluation of the Use of Mercury Porosimetry in Calculating Hydrologic Properties of Tuffs from Yucca Mountain, Nevada" (Milestone N498) has been transmitted to the WMPD for policy review.

A partial draft of the "Introduction" to the SCP, including portions common to all SCPs, satisfies Milestone M527.

SNL has submitted the modified work plans and QALAs required by Milestones R969, R970, R971, and R972 to WMPD. Approval of these work plans and QALAs will satisfy the milestones.

SAIC transmitted the draft Field Activities Plan (FAP) (Milestone P500). This plan represents the status of planning after the NNWSI Project FY 88 Work Package Proposal Authorization System was presented in Washington and includes all changes resulting from subsequent HQ review. Since it seems likely that field activities planning will continue to evolve as the SCP is written and finalized, further revision of the FAP is certain.

SAIC submitted a draft of the NNWSI Project Public Affairs Plan for WMPD review.

SAIC sent the Preliminary Site Characterization Radiological Monitoring Plan to WMPD for final approval. Approval will allow initiation of a monitoring program to characterize radon and radioactive particulate releases from the site prior to the start of significant site characterization activities.

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WMPO staff members escorted members of the General Accounting Office on a visit to the NTS and Yucca Mountain. They also escorted Nuclear Regulatory Commission representatives to Bare Mountain, Crater Flats, and Yucca Mountain.

Project participants reviewed the State of Nevada Grant request for 1987 and WMPO and SAIC representatives are evaluating the State proposals.

III. Upcoming Events

A. Coordination Group Meetings

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1.	Tuesday, December 9	Institutional and Socioeconomic Coordination Group	Las Vegas	W. Dixon, WMPO
B. <u>HQ Meetings</u>				
1.	Monday-Tuesday, December 8-9	Headquarters review (Kale, Isaacs visit)	Las Vegas	D. Vieth, WMPO
2.	Wednesday-Thursday, December 10-11	Spent-fuel working group meeting	Washington, D.C.	L. Skousen, WMPO
3.	Monday-Friday, December 15-19	Licensing Support Task Group Meeting	Washington, D.C.	M. Kunich, WMPO
C. <u>Internal Project and DOE/NV Meetings</u>				
1.	Monday-Wednesday, November 24-26	POC meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
2.	Tuesday, November 25	SOC Meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
3.	Monday, December 1	POC meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
4.	Tuesday, December 2	SOC meeting	Las Vegas	U. Clanton, WMPO
5.	Wednesday-Thursday, December 10-11	PM-TPO meeting	Las Vegas	J. Fiore, SAIC
6.	Tuesday, December 16	DOE/NV Manager's Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO

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D. State and Public Interaction

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1. Monday, November 24	Nevada Legislative Committee on High- Level Nuclear Waste Meeting	Las Vegas	B. West, WMPO
2. Monday-Thursday, December 7-11	American Geophysical Union Meeting	San Francisco, California	

E. NRC Interaction

None to report.



Donald L. Vieth, Director
Waste Management Project Office

WMPO:WRD-442

cc:

W. W. Dudley, Jr., USGS, Denver, CO
T. O. Hunter, SNL, 6310, Albuquerque, NM
R. W. Lynch, SNL, 6300, Albuquerque, NM
S. D. Murphy, F&S, Las Vegas, NV
Vincent Gong, REECo, Mercury, NTS
D. T. Oakley, LANL, Los Alamos, NM
L. D. Ranspott, LLNL, Livermore, CA
M. E. Spaeth, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV
J. H. Fiore, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV
J. R. LaRiviere, SAIC, Las Vegas, NV
J. P. Pedalino, H&N, Mercury, NTS
R. R. Loux, NWPO, Carson City, NV
C. H. Johnson, NWPO, Carson City, NV
P. T. Prestholt, NRC, Las Vegas, NV
David Siefken, Weston, Washington, D.C.
Donald Schweitzer, BNL, Upton, NY
A. B. Benson, DOE/HQ (RW-223) FORS
R. J. Blaney, DOE/HQ (RW-222) FORS
C. R. Cooley, DOE/HQ (RW-40) FORS
M. W. Frei, DOE/HQ (RW-231) FORS
V. J. Cassella, DOE/HQ (RW-222) FORS
Ralph Stein, DOE/HQ (RW-23) FORS
T. H. Isaacs, DOE/HQ (RW-22) FORS
J. P. Knight, DOE/HQ (RW-24) FORS
C. M. Smith, DOE/HQ (RW-42) FORS
Carol Peabody, DOE/HQ (RW-223) FORS
J. O. Neff, SRPO, DOE/CL
S. A. Mann, RTTD, DOE/CH
J. H. Anttonen, BWIP, DOE/RL
R. W. Taft, AMES, DOE/NV