



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF MINES
2401 E STREET, NW.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20241

November 14, 1984

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Division of Contracts
Washington, D.C. 20555

ATTN: Cindy Fleenor
Technical Assistance Contracts Branch

Subject: Quarterly Progress Report July-September 1984, Interagency Agreement
Number NRC-02-80-075, "Technical Assistance for Assessment of -
Repository Siting and Design"

Dear Mrs. Fleenor:

Enclosed is our 16th quarterly progress report on the subject interagency
agreement for the Period July 1, through September 30, 1984. This is in
accordance with Article 1, Number 3.1-Reporting Requirements.

Sincerely,

Martha R. Bishop
for Earle B. Amey
Division of Health and
Safety Technology

Enclosure

WM-RES	
WM Record File (36934)	WM Project 10, 11, 16
BOM	Docket No.
	PDR ✓
	LPDR ✓ (B, N, S)
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Quarterly Progress Report
July-September 1984

Progress

Personnel from the Ground Control group at the Bureau of Mines' (BOM) Denver Research Center met with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in Columbus, Ohio, to conduct preliminary data reviews of all new rock mechanics data collected at the seven proposed salt repository sites. The data are being used to substantiate findings presented in the DOE environmental assessments of proposed repository sites in the Paradox and Permian Basins and the Gulf Coast domes.

At the request of NRC, personnel from the Mine Development group of the BOM's Spokane Research Center has completed a preliminary review of the draft Basalt Waste Isolation Environmental Assessment Report. A later version of this report was received and is under going formal review.

BOM Dust Control and Ventilation personnel at the Pittsburgh Research Center have submitted a final copy of their report on "State-of-the-Art Feasibility Study of Large Diameter Horizontal Waste Emplacement Holes" to NRC. In addition, a Westinghouse document entitled, "Packing Emplacement Development Tests" has been reviewed and a list of comments has been submitted to NRC. A particular reference was directed towards future work that should evaluate relative benefits of using negative vs. positive pressure systems for the pneumatic delivery system.

Travel

BOM project personnel from the Denver Research Center attended a five-day NRC/DOE meeting held in Columbus, Ohio, from August 20 through the 24 to review data collected for the seven proposed salt repository sites.

Future Work

For the next quarter, work under this interagency agreement will be concerned with preparation for and review of the Environmental Assessments from the seven SALT sites and from NNWSI and BWIP for the first geologic repository for high-level waste as received from DOE.

Financial Status

The following summary of expenditures is provided for the period covering October 1, 1983, through September 30, 1984.

<u>Cost Component</u>	<u>Current Obligations</u>	<u>Cummulative Expenditures from Start of Agreement</u>
Personnel	\$161,796*	\$292,117
Travel	3,885	13,462
Transportation	-0-	306
Other (assessment for Bureau Admin. Sys.)	-0-	82,500
	<u>\$165,681</u>	<u>\$388,385</u>
	Balance remaining	\$401,615

*A major portion of the personnel cost is a result of a research task concerning the assessment of the state-of-the-art of large diameter horizontal nuclear waste emplacement holes.