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February 29⁸, 1985

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

ATTN: Cindy Fleenor
Technical Assistance Contracts Branch

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

Dear Mrs. Fleenor:

Enclosed is our seventeenth quarterly progress report on the subject
interagency agreement for the period October 1, 1984, through December 31,
1984. This is in accordance with Article 1, Number 3.1-Reporting
Requirements.

Sincerely,

SIGNED Earle B. Amey
Earle B. Amey
Division of Health and
Safety Technology

Enclosure

WM-RES
WM Record File
B6934
BOM

WM Project 10, 11, 16
Docket No. _____
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Distribution:

Mr. David H. Tiktinsky (5)
Project Manager, MS 623-SS
High Level Waste Branch-MMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Director, Office of MMSS (1)
ATTN: Program Support Branch, MS 623-SS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Director, Division of Waste Management (1)
MS 623-SS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Chief, Engineering Branch (1) ✓
MS 623-SS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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WBM:EAmey:rk:02/26/85:634-1251

Quarterly Progress Report
October - December 1984

Progress

A preliminary copy of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act Draft Environmental Assessment for the Hanford site repository was sent to the Bureau of Mines' (BOM) Spokane Research Center (SRC) for review in November. Review comments along with newspaper clippings from local papers (Washington State) covering waste disposal issues were sent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

BOM Dust Control and Ventilation personnel at the Pittsburgh Research Center (PRC) have submitted the master and seven copies of their final report on "State-of-the-Art Feasibility Study of Large Diameter Horizontal Waste Emplacement Holes". This report has already been reviewed and approved by NRC. BOM Ground and Methane Control personnel have reviewed the Final Report, "Repository Drilled Hole Methods Study," SAND 83-7085. A list of comments were submitted to NRC to be used in their evaluation of this report.

Personnel from the Ground Control group at the BOM's Denver Research Center (DRC) participated in reviewing preliminary drafts of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and salt environmental assessments (EA) prepared by the Department of Energy. Interim review comments were submitted for the Davis Canyon and Richton Dome EA's and the acquisition of supporting reference information was completed as required.

Review comments were submitted by SRC, PRC and DRC for the document entitled, "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Draft Generic Technical Position on Design Information Needs in the Site Characterization Plan (SCP)."

Progress inadvertently omitted from last quarter's report:

Personnel from the Ground Control group at the BOM's DRC were involved in the following activities:

- o NRC Headquarters meeting in Silver Spring, MD, to prepare for a visit to NTS, Mercury, NV and a data review workshop for NNWSI in Albuquerque, NM.
- o Visit to NTS in July at Mercury, NV.
- o One-week data review workshop for NNWSI in Albuquerque, NM, July 16-20, 1984.
- o Submission of comments on the draft NNWSI preliminary EA.

Travel

None to report.

Future Work

Future work under this interagency agreement has changed focus with the completion of assessing the state-of-the-art of large diameter horizontal nuclear waste emplacement holes. The new emphasis concerns the environmental assessment/review work required for mine potentially acceptable sites (1 from BWIP, 1 from NNWSI, and 7 for Salt) for 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 through December 31, 1984:

<u>Cost Component</u>	<u>Current Obligations</u>	<u>Cummulative Expenditures from Start of Agreement</u>
Personnel	\$75,341*	\$365,598
Travel	- 0 -	15,322**
Transportation	- 0 -	306
Other (assessment for Bureau Admin. Sys.)	- 0 -	82,500
	<u>\$75,341</u>	<u>\$463,726</u>
	Balance remaining:	\$326,274

* The majority of personnel costs is a result of the completion of the major research task concerning the assessment of the state-of-the-art of large diameter horizontal nuclear waste emplacement holes.

** \$1,860 has been added to total due to inadvertently omitted trip taken in July by DRC personnel.