

September 25, 2003

Robert Brient
Director of Quality Assurance
Center For Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
6220 Culebra Road, P.O. Drawer 28510
San Antonio, TX 78228-5166

SUBJECT: DRAFT INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR AUDITS, TEST CONTROL,
SOFTWARE VALIDATION, AND SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION
[INTERMEDIATE MILESTONES 20.06002.01.041.321, 20.06002.01.041.322,
20.06002.01.041.323, AND 20.06002.01.041.324]

Dear Mr. Brient,

We have reviewed the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis (CNWRA) proposed inspection procedures (IP) 78150 "Test Control," and IP 78230, "Software Validation," dated September 2, 2003; and IP 78220, "Audits" and IP 78250, "Scientific Investigation" dated September 10, 2003. The IPs were developed by CNWRA for use in the inspection of the U.S. Department of Energy's quality assurance activities associated with the proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain.

NRC staff finds the IPs are adequate for the subject inspection activities. During ongoing development of the inspection program the staff may make minor changes to the IPs prior to issuing them final. Any changes will first be discussed with CNWRA.

If you have any questions regarding the comments, you may contact me at (301) 415-5170 or via e-mail (tjk1@nrc.gov). No written response to this letter is required and the subject IPs are considered acceptable to fulfill the CNWRA's contractual obligations for these Intermediate Milestones.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Timothy J. Kobetz
Program Element Manager
High Level Waste Branch
Division of Waste Management
Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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