

Dr. Gordon W. Wittmeyer
Manager, Performance Assessment
Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
6220 Culebra Road
P.O. Drawer 28510
San Antonio, Texas 78228-0510

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF IM 20-1402-761-930, REPORT TITLED "A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION TOTAL-SYSTEM PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT METHOD"

Dear Dr. Wittmeyer:

The Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) transmitted the subject Intermediate Milestone on September 30, 1999. The report was received on the scheduled due date of October 1, 1999. This submission has been reviewed and found acceptable. The report fulfills the Intermediate Milestone 20-1402-761-930 in the FY99 CNWRA Operations Plan and will be placed in the Public Document Room.

This CNWRA deliverable lays out a strategy for further code development and documentation to prepare the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and CNWRA staff for reviewing a U.S. Department of Energy license application (LA) for a geologic repository sited at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The strategic plan was developed exclusively at the CNWRA and has been presented as a working document, one that will stimulate further discussions on the steps that must be taken to be prepared for reviewing the LA. I hope these discussions will lead to a clear vision on the schedules that we should follow as we progress towards the review of a license application.

To facilitate discussion and more specific planning, I am requesting that the CNWRA take the following steps as a consequence of the Strategic Plan:

- (1) Estimate the amount of work required for each of the tasks recommended in the Strategic Plan; and
- (2) Develop an outline for the software validation test procedure in order to provide background for discussions on the scope and timing of any validation activities that are undertaken.

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Dr. G. Wittmeyer

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Although the two activities above are not expected to take much effort, we should still evaluate the timing of these efforts in light of ongoing high-priority work at the CNWRA.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6628 or (jrf2@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

James R. Firth, Element Manager
Total System Performance Assessment
and Integration KTI
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: B. Meehan, ADM/DCPM/CMB2
J. Linehan, PMDA

Dr. G. Wittmeyer

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October 22, 1999

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6628 or (jrf2@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

[Original signed by:]

James R. Firth, Element Manager
Total System Performance Assessment
and Integration KTI
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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J. Linehan, PMDA

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