

February 11, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: Barbara D. Meehan
Contracting Officer
Technical Acquisition Branch No. 1
Division of Contracts, ADM

FROM: Deborah A. DeMarco
CNWRA Deputy Program Manager
Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff, NMSS

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CENTER FOR NUCLEAR WASTE
REGULATORY ANALYSES FISCAL YEAR 1998
OPERATIONS PLAN FOR THE DIVISION OF WASTE
MANAGEMENT

The Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) "Operations Plan for the Division of Waste Management FY98 (Revision 10, Change 0, January 1998)" have been reviewed by the appropriate NRC staff. The proposed CNWRA FY98 Operations Plan will be acceptable, upon revision, in accordance with the minor corrections identified in the enclosure to this letter. The CNWRA should be directed to provide changes pages three weeks after receipt of our comments.

Enclosure: As stated

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cc: J. Linehan, PMDA

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**NRC Comments on CNWRA FY98 Operation Plan
Revision 10, Change 0**

Repository Design and Thermal Mechanical Effects (RDTME)

1. Section 2.72 (page 2-14). The second paragraph, first sentence gives the impression that the NRC has accepted DOE's design control process in total. We have only accepted the design control process for the ESF. The recommended change is as follows:

The NRC has accepted DOE's design control process for the ESF design, construction and operation. However, monitoring the design control process is a continuous effort to ensureetc.

Total System Performance Assessment

1. Milestone 201 - This milestone was completed on 11/6/97.
2. Milestone 202.1 - This AI should be postponed for two weeks since the original due date was based on receiving the subject DOE report on 12/5/97 which did not arrive until 12/19/97. The new due date is now 2/6/98. The Center is expected to compile inputs from all KTIs (guidance was provided to all KTIs during the YM Team meeting on 1/7/98). The information will be used during the 3/19/98 TSPA Technical Exchange (see also 205).
3. Milestone 202 - Likewise, the new due date for this milestone will be 2/20/98. NRC will add review comments that have not been incorporated into the Center's deliverable.
4. Milestone 203 - At DOE's request, this Appendix 7 meeting has been postponed. The new date has not been set but will likely be sometime in 4/98. The new completion date should be 4/24/98. The exact date will be provided to you as soon as it becomes available.
5. Milestone 205 - This TE is now scheduled for the week of 3/16/98. The new due date should be 3/20/98.
6. Milestones 207 and 207.1 - After the TE on 1/14/98, DOE has indicated that the TSPA-VA base case might not be available to us in the form of a report. We are currently discussing this issue with DOE. We will decide on these two milestones after we clarify the situation with DOE.
7. Milestone 400.2 - This milestone was completed on 12/3/97.

Enclosure

Activities Related to Development of the EPA Standard

1. The milestones are all acceptable. However, it should be noted that the Element Manager does question the rationale for foreign travel to Patras (Greece) for the this KTI.