

TRIP REPORT

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| To: <p style="text-align: center;">Newton K. Stablein</p> | FROM: <p style="text-align: center;">Vernon D. Hedges <i>VA</i></p> TO: <p style="text-align: center;">WMRP</p> |
| Agency: <p style="text-align: center;">USGS</p> | Date of Trip: <p style="text-align: center;">May 20, 1986</p> |

PERSONS CONTACTED

Jim Blaylock (DOE), Joe Wilmon (USGS), and D. Porter (SAIC)

PURPOSE OF TRIP

The purpose of the visit was to discuss the status of the USGS QA program and to discuss any suggested changes to the NRC Review Plan to enhance its understanding by earth scientists.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

* See attached.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The DOE has one staff member which I believe is inadequate for control and overview of the NNWSI QA program.

PENDING ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

NRC QA staff should be at the sites more often to overview work in progress and discuss issues.

Status of the stop work order and restart plans were discussed.

The USGS is nearing completion of a rewrite of their QA program plan and implementing procedures. USGS had some questions about interpretation of QA requirements which were resolved between DOE and USGS.

It is expected that DOE and USGS will treat the restart of work at USGS much like a readiness review which will likely result in work being started in increments. I requested that the NRC be kept advised of restart plans to permit us to observe selected activities.

Potential improvements in the NRC Review Plan to improve communications to earth scientists were discussed.

I discussed the benefits of DOE having the NRC conduct mini-audits of discrete work packages that will be near completion or completed in the next few months as opposed to waiting until the DOE is ready to issue the SCP and having the NRC conduct one, intensive audit. I advised DOE and USGS that the NRC was formally requesting the DOE to consider such audits.