



Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Office of Repository Development
1551 Hillshire Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

QA: N/A
Project No. WM-00011

NOV 28 2003

OVERNIGHT MAIL

ATTN: Document Control Desk
Chief, High-Level Waste Branch, DWM/NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE (KTI) AGREEMENT RESPONSE SCHEDULE

- References:
- (1) Ltr, Ziegler to Schlueter, dtd 6/23/03
 - (2) Ltr, Schlueter to Ziegler, dtd 10/29/03
 - (3) Ltr, Schlueter to Ziegler, dtd 10/21/03

This letter transmits a revised schedule for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) delivery of responses to the remaining KTI agreements and "Additional Information Needs" (AIN). This schedule supercedes the schedule previously sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in Reference 1.

Consistent with our recent KTI agreement submittals, the majority of the remaining KTI agreement responses are organized into response groups that correlate to the relevant parts of the Yucca Mountain Project postclosure analysis. Each response group will be submitted with a technical basis document, which summarizes the current conceptional understanding of the technical area. In some cases, the response group consists of subgroups of responses to be submitted at different times. Also, a small number of the remaining KTI agreements and AINs are expected to be submitted as individual responses. Enclosures 1, 2 and 3 identify the remaining KTI agreement and AIN responses and their planned delivery dates to the NRC. Enclosure 1 presents this information by KTI agreement number, Enclosure 2 by group, and Enclosure 3 by schedule date to NRC.

Although the schedule for any individual agreement response may have changed, significant improvement has been made in the overall schedule. The agreements that NRC considers to have "high-risk significance" along with other agreements previously scheduled to be submitted in fiscal year (FY) 2005 have been accelerated into FY 2004 (see Enclosure 4, June 2003 and November 2003 KTI Agreement Response Schedules). For the three "high-risk significance" agreements that were previously shown to complete after the anticipated submittal of the License Application (Container Life and Source Term (CLST) 1.04, 2.04, and 2.05), DOE now anticipates information to be available to submit complete responses in April 2004.

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NOV 28 2003

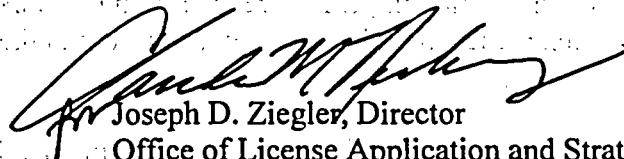
The NRC evaluation of CLST 5.04, Evolution of Near-Field Environment 5.03, and Radionuclide Transport 4.03 response, received on November 12, 2003 (Reference 2), is currently under review by DOE. The NRC evaluation stated that these agreements are considered only partially received, and also requested additional information. DOE will provide a response to your letter, with specific dates to re-address these agreements.

Remaining agreements will be addressed by August 2004 except Preclosure 7.04 AIN-1, received on October 27, 2003, which will be addressed in the License Application, consistent with the expectations of the NRC as expressed in Reference 3.

The DOE welcomes opportunities to discuss its technical approach to addressing the KTI agreements and AINs as the NRC staff finds necessary, and is prepared to schedule public interactions in that regard at the mutual convenience of DOE and NRC.

The enclosed information represents new DOE commitment dates for delivery of the responses to the remaining KTI agreements and AINs.

Please direct any questions regarding this letter to Timothy C. Gunter at (702)-794-1343.



Joseph D. Ziegler, Director
Office of License Application and Strategy

OLA&S:TCG-0264

Enclosures:

1. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule
(Sorted by KTI Agreement)
2. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule
(Sorted by KTI response group and date to NRC)
3. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule
(Sorted by date to NRC and KTI response group)
4. June 2003 and November 2003
KTI Agreement Response Schedules

NOV 28 2003

cc w/encls:

D. D. Chamberlain, NRC, Arlington, TX
G. P. Hatchett, NRC, Rockville, MD
R. M. Latta, NRC, Las Vegas, NV
D. B. Spitzberg, NRC, Arlington, TX
J. B. Garrick, ACNW, Rockville, MD
H. J. Larson, ACNW, Rockville, MD
W. C. Patrick, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX
Budhi Sagar, CNWRA, San Antonio, TX
J. R. Egan, Egan & Associates, McLean, VA
J. H. Kessler, EPRI, Palo Alto, CA
M. J. Apted, Monitor Scientific, LLC, Denver, CO
Rod McCullum, NEI, Washington, DC
W. D. Barnard, NWTRB, Arlington, VA
R. R. Loux, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV
Pat Guinan, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV
Alan Kalt, Churchill County, Fallon, NV
Irene Navis, Clark County, Las Vegas, NV
George McCorkell, Esmeralda County, Goldfield, NV
Leonard Fiorenzi, Eureka County, Eureka, NV
Andrew Remus, Inyo County, Independence, CA
Michael King, Inyo County, Edmonds, WA
Mickey Yarbro, Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV
Spencer Hafen, Lincoln County, Pioche, NV
Linda Mathias, Mineral County, Hawthorne, NV
L. W. Bradshaw, Nye County, Pahrump, NV
Mike Simon, White Pine County, Ely, NV
R. I. Holden, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, DC

cc w/o encls:

C. W. Reamer, NRC, Rockville, MD
A. C. Campbell, NRC, Rockville, MD
L. L. Campbell, NRC, Rockville, MD
J. D. Parrott, NRC, Las Vegas, NV
N. K. Stablein, NRC, Rockville, MD