

YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT OFFICE

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Fax No: (702) 794-7907 or 7908
Verification No: (702) 794-7919

301-504-2260

FROM:

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TO:

ORG:

301 504-2260

FAX & VER. #:

VERIFIED:

TO:

Ken Hook

ORG:

NRC

FAX & VER. #:

VERIFIED:

TO:

*Received
2/1/93
7/28/93
[Signature]*

ORG:

FAX & VER. #:

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TO:

*Copies to
Hicks
Adams
Holovich*

ORG:

FAX & VER. #:

VERIFIED:

PLEASE CALL TO VERIFY RECEIPT OF FAX

COMMENTS:

*Please share with C Adams
Phil & I will call to explain*

NUMBER OF PAGES, EXCLUDING COVER SHEET

4

SIGNATURE

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DATE

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TIME

DRAFT 7/28/93

Enclosure 1

**SUMMARY OF ESF DESIGN CHANGE NOTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION IN
PROGRESS REPORTS**

Progress Report 4, dated October 1991
(covering October 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991)

Section 2.1.2 entitled, Exploratory Studies Facility Design and Construction, incorporated by reference a preliminary report entitled "Findings of the ESF Alternatives Study" (Stevens and Costin, 1991) that was completed in December 1990. It went on to say that this report provided an overall ranking of the 34 identified ESF configurations at the level of an executive summary. It also states, "The new ESF configuration, while not final, is presently being referred to as the 'Reference Design Concept' (RDC)." "Revisions to the Design Summary Report are currently ongoing to incorporate the new ESF RDC. In addition, a plan (DOE, 1991a) has been prepared and baselined in response to an OCRWM request to develop a phased approach to the ESF design development and implementation. This plan describes how the ESF design, construction, and testing activities will be conducted using a phased approach." This plan was included in the List of References at the end of the report and was, therefore, incorporated by reference.

Section 2.1.2.1 entitled, ESF Alternatives Study, also noted, "During the reporting period, work continued and a preliminary report on the ESFAS was completed as the expert panels continued to evaluate the 34 identified options." "On the basis of the documentation and the briefing provided to him, the OCRWM Director requested that the YMP proceed with a design study focusing on the favorable features of the highest-ranked options." "This design study is currently being conducted by RSN."

The section then references important meetings with the NWTRB and the NRC with respect to ESFAS being discussed in Section 2.1.7. Section 2.1.7 states, "Two formal meetings with the NRC were held, ... and one in January to discuss the status of the CHRBA and ESFAS tasks."

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Section 2.1.10, reported the SCPB was being revised in preparation for the start of Title II design studies on the ESF and would incorporate changes to program planning based upon the ESF reference design concept.

Shaft to Ramp - Pg 2-12

*Rev. 0 Shaft
Rev. 1 Ramp
JMP/RS*

Thus, in the first reporting period in which the ESF Alternatives Study was completed, it was reported in the progress report. The timeliness and detail included in those reports have been the subject of concern, but both the preliminary ESFAS report and the plan for the phased approach to ESF design development and implementation were incorporated by reference. The new configuration was characterized as preliminary, but presented as the reference design concept, and the phased approach was referenced. The report also references a meeting held with the NRC (in January following completion of the report) for the expressed purpose of discussing the status of the ESFAS task.

Progress Report 5, dated June 1992
(covering April 1, 1991 - September 30, 1991)

Section 2.1.2.1 of PR 5 continued to report status of the ESFAS by noting that the final report was published in September 1991. It also provided continuity by reporting that "The design study that was initiated in the previous reporting period was completed in August 1991." In addition, it provided a very brief description of the ESF reference design concept.

Section 2.1.10, entitled, Site Characterization Program Baseline (SCPB) noted that during this reporting period both Revision 0 and Revision 1 were issued. It further noted that Revision 1 incorporated changes to program planning based upon the reference ESF design concept resulting from the ESFAS. *pg 2-15* *Rev 1* *Substantive changes* *See B422* *Baseline*

Progress Report 6, dated September 1992
(covering October 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992)

ESFDP Section 2.1.2, Exploratory Studies Facility design and construction, notes that the requirements documents for the ESF were revised to conform to a two-ramp configuration of the ESF, as recommended by the ESFAS. Thus, continuing to report the developments that flow from the ESF design changes taking place. *Phase 1* *1 new ramp*

Progress Report 7, dated December 1992
(covering April 1, 1992 - September 30, 1992) *PR 2-2*

Section 2.1.2, Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Design and Construction, reported that Revision 1 of the ESF Title I Design Summary Report was issued reflecting the change in name from Exploratory Shaft Facility to Exploratory Studies Facility and the change in ESF configuration based on the ESF Alternatives Study. The same section also noted that a phased approach to ESF Title II design had been adopted by the program.

Section 2.1.8, Site Characterization Program Baseline (SCPB), reported that during the reporting period four revisions of the SCPB were issued. Of those, Revision 6 (issued July 15, 1992) updated Section 8.4 (Planned Site Preparation Activities) to be consistent with the current ESF concept.

Both the ESFAS Final Report and the Title I Design Summary Report for the Exploratory Studies Facility were included in this progress report by reference.

Progress Report 8, to be dated July 1993
(covering October 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993)

In response to the recurring comments that the Progress Report has not been providing sufficient description and notification of changes to ESF design, Section 2.1.2 of PR 8 provides a summary of the changes reported in previous PRs as well as discussion of the design and construction changes and progress occurring during this reporting period.

Section 2.1.6.2 notes the Structural Geology and Geoenvironment Panel workshop held with the NWTRB to discuss ESF alternative design and construction strategies.

Summary

This is a brief summary of the notification of ESF design developments and changes provided in Progress Reports 4 through 8. While it is acknowledged there remains a need for resolution of such subjects as timeliness, level of detail, and incorporation by reference in the progress reports, it is felt that the changes in ESF design have been identified and addressed in the progress reports as soon as proposed changes have been studied and resolved and it is appropriate to announce the changes.

As the production cycle time for progress reports stabilizes, the timeliness of notification of design changes via the progress reports should be acceptable.

As the volume of information resulting from the characterization activities continues to expand, it will become even more necessary to summarize and distill that information in the progress reports. Thus, it will become increasingly necessary to rely on references to provide the level of detail needed by individuals with interest in particular areas. Efforts will be made to improve the consistency of level of detail and completeness of reference information throughout the progress reports.

< TRANSACTION REPORT >

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