

MAR 21 1988

Mr. John Latz, President
Center for Nuclear Waste
Regulatory Analyses
6620 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78284

SUBJECT: STATUS OF TASK 1 IN GEOLOGIC SETTING PROGRAM ELEMENT

Dear Mr. Latz:

In reviewing the Program Manager's Periodic Report No. 88-5, I have identified a serious problem which appears to require immediate management attention. The Geologic Setting Program Element activities relative to the development of the Program Architecture (Intermediate Milestone 2 and 3) are considerably behind the other program elements, 30 percent compared to 60 to 90 percent. The program element is also considerably undercosted, 42.3% at the end of period 5. Although the periodic report indicates that everything will be completed by the end of period 6, I am concerned that in the effort to make up that much work, quality may suffer. I am also concerned that your element manager has been called on to travel extensively at the same time this work is being made up. I want to remind you that the most important activity at this time is the development of the program architecture. We do not want to allow slippage in any program area that would result in a delay in completion of this task or a reduction in the quality of the product to be produced.

Based on discussions with Wes Patrick in Albuquerque on March 16, 1988, I understand the actual status of costs may not be as far behind as that presented in the report, due to a delay in reporting subcontractor costs. I also understand that the make-up in schedule will be accommodated by transferring some of Dr. Russell's workload to others.

I hope you will carefully monitor the requests for Dr. Russell's (and other key staff) time on tasks other than the Program Architecture and let me know when they threaten the timeliness, completeness and quality of the primary task in year one. I know that neither you nor I want to risk a perception that the

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except PDR, LPR,
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LETTER FOR: John Latz, President
Center for Nuclear Waste
Regulatory Analyses

FROM: Joseph O. Bunting, Chief
Systems Engineering & Evaluation Branch
Program Manager, CNWPA

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CNWRA/GS MIL 2 & 3 PROBLEMS

- 2 -

Program Architecture lacks technical substance in any of the Program Elements. Comments on the remainder of the Program Manager's Periodic Report No. 5 will be provided in a separate letter at a later time.

Sincerely,



Joseph O. Bunting, Chief
Systems Engineering & Evaluation Branch
Program Manager, CNWRA

Enclosure:
As Stated

cc: Mary H. Mace