

January 6, 2004

Mr. Robert R. Loux  
Executive Director  
Agency for Nuclear Projects  
1802 N. Carson Street, Suite 252  
Carson City, NV 89701

SUBJECT: AN EXAMPLE OF THE LEVEL OF DETAIL TO BE FOUND IN SECTIONS OF  
THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY LICENSE APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Loux:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your letter to me dated October 14, 2003. In that letter you raised concerns regarding an example of the type and amount of information that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) plans to submit to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in the proposed Yucca Mountain Repository License Application (LA). The example was submitted by DOE on September 19, 2003, and provided text and figures describing the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system for a hypothetical spent nuclear fuel dry transfer facility. The example did not reflect a particular design solution for the LA, but instead it represented the level of detail that would be in a potential LA.

NRC staff reviewed the example and by letter dated December 11, 2003, provided feedback to DOE on the appropriateness of the information it contained. During its review, the staff considered the issues you raised in your letter. A copy of the letter to DOE was also provided to you at that time and is enclosed for your convenience.

The LA must contain sufficient information for NRC to perform a thorough safety review before making a decision whether or not to authorize construction of a repository at Yucca Mountain. The NRC requested the information on the HVAC system from DOE as one means of assessing the level of detail that DOE plans to submit in an LA..

R. Loux

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In addition, in February 2004, NRC intends to conduct a technical exchange with DOE to discuss this subject in further detail.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact me at 301-415-7264 or by e-mail to [JRS1@nrc.gov](mailto:JRS1@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Janet R. Schlueter, Chief  
High-Level Waste Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure:  
Dec. 11, 2003 Ltr to DOE

cc: See attached distribution list

Letter or Memorandum to R. Loux from J. Schlueter, dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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NRC On-Site Representatives

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G. Hudlow

R. Loux

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Sincerely,  
/RA/  
Janet R. Schlueter, Chief  
High-Level Waste Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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Enclosure: Dec. 11, 2003 Ltr to DOE  
cc: See attached distribution list

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