

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION STRATEGY

RRT 1.6.1 SITE CHARACTERIZATION WORK CONDUCTED

APPLICABLE REGULATORY REQUIREMENT:

10 CFR 60.21(b)(5)

TYPES OF REVIEW:

Acceptance Review (Type 1)
General Information Review (Type 2)

RATIONALE FOR TYPES OF REVIEW:

Acceptance Review (Type 1) Rationale:

This regulatory requirement topic is considered to be license application-related because, as specified in the license application content requirements of 10 CFR 60.21(b) and the regulatory guide "Format and Content for the License Application for the High-Level Waste Repository" (FCRG), it must be addressed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in its license application. Therefore, the staff will conduct an Acceptance Review of the license application for this regulatory requirement topic.

General Information Review (Type 2) Rationale:

This regulatory requirement topic is related to the general information required in 10 CFR 60.21(b). It is a requirement for which compliance is necessary to make a safety determination for construction authorization as defined in 10 CFR 60.31(a).

REVIEW STRATEGY:

Acceptance Review:

In conducting the Acceptance Review, the reviewer should ascertain whether DOE has stated that any divergences from its 1988 Site Characterization Plan (SCP) (see DOE, 1988) have been discussed in its semi-annual progress reports and whether any objections to these divergences have been resolved, at the staff level.

General Information Review:

This review focuses on the accurate description of site characterization work actually conducted by DOE consistent with its SCP or semi-annual progress reports.

The purpose of site characterization is for DOE to collect sufficient data to support a license application. In accordance with 10 CFR 60.18, DOE shall report on the progress of site characterization and the NRC staff may comment on DOE's progress in the context of the value of this work in supporting a license application. Because DOE will have documented changes in its site characterization work and the NRC staff will have had the opportunity to review these changes, it is probable that there will be no outstanding objections to this work at the time of license application submittal. Therefore, the reviewer should

determine whether the license application states that any divergences from DOE's SCP have been described in DOE's semi-annual progress reports and whether any staff objections have been resolved, at the staff level.

The reviewer should determine the accuracy of DOE's statement by checking the staff's Open Item Tracking System to determine that DOE has: (1) resolved any staff comments regarding inaccuracy of reporting changes in its site characterization work as described in the SCP, and (2) resolved any staff objections concerning site characterization work or documented those that are unresolved in Section 1.6.2 of the license application.

RATIONALE FOR REVIEW STRATEGY:

Not Applicable.

Contributing Analysts:

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CNWRA: Stephen H. Spector

Dates of Analysis: 3/01/93

APPLICABLE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH TYPE OF REVIEW:

Type 1:

10 CFR 60.21(b)(5)

Type 2:

10 CFR 60.21(b)(5)

REFERENCES:

Code of Federal Regulation, "Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in Geologic Repositories," Part 60, Chapter I, Title 10, "Energy."

Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Format and Content For the License Application for the High-Level Waste Repository." Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research. [Refer to the "Products List" for the Division of High-Level Waste Management to identify the most current edition of the FCRG in effect.]

U.S. Department of Energy, "Site Characterization Plan, Yucca Mountain Site, Nevada Research and Development Area, Nevada," Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, 9 Vols., DOE/RW-0199, December 1988.