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AUG 16 1983

Dr. Robert J. Wright  
 Senior Technical Advisor  
 High Level Waste Technical  
 Development Branch  
 Division of Waste Management  
 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Wright:

**GUIDELINES FOR NRC INTERFACE**

During your visit to Richland the week of July 11, guidelines for technical interface between NRC and DOE and designated contacts for information exchange were discussed. Enclosed is a list of designated BWIP communicators and guidelines for implementing their information exchange responsibilities. NRC's staff counterparts to the BWIP communicators were identified by you and attached to the Summary Meeting Notes - DOE/NRC Meeting on Hydrology Testing - Richland, Washington, July 11-15, 1983.

These contacts between the NRC and DOE/Rockwell staff will allow exchange of technical information and status of project activities. However, as indicated in the enclosed guidelines, official requests or exchange of information between NRC and DOE will continue to be handled by my office. If experience confirms the effectiveness of these arrangements, they should be incorporated in the procedural agreement between the NRC and BWIP.

If you have any questions covering this material, please contact Dave Squires of my staff.

Very truly yours,

*O. L. Olson*

O. L. Olson, Project Manager  
 Basalt Waste Isolation Project Office

BWI:DJS

Enclosure

cc, w/encl: M. W. Frei, DOE-HQ  
 R. A. Deju, Rockwell

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**RECOMMENDED**  
**GUIDELINES FOR TECHNICAL INTERFACE BETWEEN THE**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION,**  
**THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY-RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE,**  
**AND ROCKWELL HANFORD OPERATIONS**  
**REGARDING THE BASALT WASTE ISOLATION PROJECT**

The purpose of these guidelines is to streamline the flow of technical information between the staff of the Basalt Waste Isolation Project (BWIP) [both the Department of Energy (DOE) and Rockwell Hanford Operations (Rockwell)] and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff. Timely, accurate, and efficient exchanges are of paramount importance in this process of pre-licensing consultation.

**DESIGNATED COMMUNICATORS**

The basis for the interface will be the following designated communicators in each main area of study. The communicators are knowledgeable experts in their fields and hold a current managerial position of at least group manager. With the exception of Quality Assurance, all designated communicators are Rockwell BWIP staff members.

Performance Assessment	R. T. Wilde (FTS 444-7207) Manager, Systems Department
Repository Design	R. J. Gimera (FTS 444-8919) Associate Director, BWIP
Quality Assurance	M. S. Karol (FTS 444-7305) Manager, Quality Assurance DOE-Richland Operations Office G. J. Bracken (Alternate) FTS 444-6579
Geology	S. M. Price (FTS 444-2421) Manager, Geosciences Group
Geochemistry	P. F. Salter (FTS 444-4200) Manager, Waste Package Design and Geochemistry Group
Hydrogeology	G. S. Hunt (FTS 444-7981) Manager, Site Department
Waste Package	M. J. Smith (FTS 440-3535) Manager, Waste Package Department

Counterparts to each of the above BWIP communicators have been named from within the NRC staff. (Summary Meeting Notes - DOE/NRC Meeting on Hydrology Testing - Richland, Washington - July 11-15, 1983.)

### AUTHORITY OF COMMUNICATORS

1. The BWIP communicators are authorized to have open discussions and exchange of views with NRC counterparts on exchanged information and related technical matters.
2. The BWIP communicators are authorized to accept telephone calls directly from their NRC counterpart communicators.
  - a. If the NRC requests technical information which the BWIP communicator can provide during the initial call, he/she is authorized to do so.
  - b. If the NRC requests technical information which the BWIP communicator is unable to answer during the initial call, a date for providing the information should be agreed upon. The BWIP communicator is required to provide the information on or before the agreed upon date. If the information requires a transmittal, the transmittal will be by DOE.
3. The BWIP communicators are authorized to contact the NRC by telephone to status pertinent areas of the BWIP.
4. BWIP communicators are not authorized to address NRC requests on issues outside their areas of expertise but may contact the communicator in that area in responding to NRC inquiries.
5. Only technical information pertaining to BWIP may be discussed by the BWIP communicator. The NRC must contact the DOE directly with requests on programmatic matters, legal questions, tours and visits to BWIP, and other non-technical questions. Official correspondence is to be transmitted by DOE.
6. Requests in writing from the NRC should be handled as they are currently. The NRC writes directly to DOE and DOE responds to the request.
7. The BWIP communicators do not have the authority to make commitments on behalf of Rockwell or DOE other than to verbally respond to NRC inquiries.

### DOCUMENTATION OF INTERFACE

1. The BWIP communicator shall, within two working days of any telephone conversation with NRC, complete a Telecon Report. The Telecon Report should be of sufficient detail to highlight issues discussed and information provided and should be typed. The originating BWIP communicator should sign the original and retain a copy. The following are to be on distribution to receive copies of the Telecon Report:

- Manager, Office of Licensing
  - BWIP Director
  - Originator's end function manager, if applicable
  - DOE-Richland Operations Office, Basalt Waste Isolation Project Office (BWIPO)
  - Records Retention Center
  - NRC communicator
  - Resident NRC Representative
  - NRC Site Project Manager
2. In addition to writing the Telecon Report, the communicator is responsible to maintain copies of his/her Telecon Reports.
  3. The Manager, Office of Licensing, is responsible to maintain copies of all Telecon Reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF DOE-RL

1. The DOE-RL is responsible for direct response to NRC requests pertaining to policy decisions, legal questions, tours of and visits to BWIP, and other technical and non-technical questions.
2. The DOE-RL is responsible for direct response to all NRC requests submitted in writing.
3. The DOE-RL is responsible for transmittal of all written information requested through designated communicators.