



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

WM 706
3rd File

10-4-85
WM Project 16
Docket No.

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Sec

MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of Waste Management

FROM: Tilak R. Verma, Senior On-Site Licensing Representative
Salt Repository Project (SRP)

SUBJECT: SRP SITE REPORT FOR THE WEEKS OF AUGUST 19, 1985
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1985

1. I was asked by SRPO regarding Mr. Bland's contract with NRC. After discussions with Mark Delligatti and Bill Bland, I told SRPO (Reese) that Mr. Bland's contract expires on September 30, 1985. SRPO and Bill Bland are in the process of negotiating a contract for Bland's availability to SRPO for technical assistance in their QA Program.
2. Susan Bilhorn requested ONWI's QA audit reports on PNL's work in the Waste Package Program area. Due to deficiencies in PNL's QA program, ONWI had issued a STOP WORK ORDER for Waste Package Program at PNL. During Summer of 1985, the STOP WORK ORDER was lifted. I have requested SRPO's QA Manager (Reese) for copies of these audit reports and PNL's corrective action reports. I will send these reports to Bilhorn soon after I get them.
3. On August 27-28, 1985, I attended Fluor (A/E for Repository Design in Salt) SRPO and ONWI meetings on Emplacement Mode Position Paper, Waste Package/Repository Impact Report and Probabilistic Risk Analysis (PRA). Fluor has recommended horizontal emplacement in an unsleeved borehole as the preferred choice for emplacement of waste in a salt repository. I have provided the viewgraphs from these meetings to the Salt Team members.
4. I was at the HQ on September 4-6, 1985, and met with the Director, Deputy Directory and a number of technical and managerial staff in the Division of Waste Management. The visit was quite useful from my point of view. Discussions with individual salt team members were also quite useful. Presentations by the RP and PC Branches were of sufficient detail. The OR's quarterly visit to the HQ should be extended to five working days.
5. During the week of September 16, 1985, I attended (as an observer) DOE's QA audit of PNL in the Waste Package Program area. The audit team was led by Jerry Reese of SRPO. Deficiencies were found in five areas. It is my observation that the audit team tried to audit the entire waste package program area in two days and therefore, they were not able to audit the QA program at the level indicated in their "Check-List." Also, it is my impression that PNL was not actually doing much laboratory work and therefore, it was not possible to audit implementation of technical and QA procedures in the laboratory work. Cook and I briefed Mike Bell and Hub Miller by a phone call on September 20, 1985. I plan to meet with Johnson, Bilhorn and Voglewede to discuss my observations from this QA audit.

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6. During the week of September 23, 1985, I visited the domal salt sites in Louisiana and Mississippi and met with the State representatives in these two States. In Mississippi, the State people indicated that they are in the process of asking DOE to review the Richton Dome area. The data relates to dome geometry.
7. Have received a draft of "Schematic of SRP Documentation."

Tilak R. Verma
Tilak R. Verma
Senior On-Site Licensing
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Salt Repository Project

TRV:max:9030B

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