NRC - DOE MEETING

ON DISPOSAL OF HANFORD DEFENSE WASTES

Date: June 9, 1988

Time: 2:00-5:00 PM

Location: 4B11-NRC White Flint Bldg., Rockville, MD

List of Attendees: See Attachment 1

Summary: NRC and DOE staff met to discuss disposal plans for the Hanford double-shell tank wastes. The meeting objectives were as follows:

1. To provide an opportunity for DOE to present information on their plans to dispose of double-shell tank wastes within the scope of the Hanford Defense Waste-Environmental Impact Statement (HDW-EIS).

2. To provide an opportunity for the DOE to present information on their plans to dispose of Hanford phosphate-sulfate wastes (PSW) from N-Reactor decontamination.

3. To provide an opportunity for NRC to discuss their views and concerns with DOE.

4. To identify possible future interactions between NRC and DOE.

DOE's presentation (Attachment 2) identified six different waste streams that it intends to process at Hanford for disposal. These include: (1) phosphate-sulfate waste (PSW); (2) plutonium finishing plant waste; (3) cladding removal waste; (4) neutralized current acid waste; (5) double-shell slurry feed; and (6) double-shell slurry.

DOE indicated that it intends to initiate processing of the PSW in July 1988 by grouting and disposing of the grout in a shallow land burial facility at Hanford. The PSW wastes are a result of primary loop decontamination of N-Reactor and ion-exchange wastes. DOE indicated that these wastes have been segregated from other Hanford wastes and are clearly low-level wastes. NRC agrees with DOE that these wastes are low-level wastes. NRC staff indicated that it sees no reason why DOE could not proceed to dispose of these wastes as scheduled.

DOE intends to treat the neutralized current acid wastes (NCAW) as high-level waste. Cesium would be removed from the supernate and combined with sludge containing strontium and other precipitated radionuclides and then vitrified into borosilicate glass for eventual disposal in a geologic repository. DOE

indicated that the treated supernate would be mixed with grout and disposed of as low-level waste.

DOE indicated that it intends to treat the remaining four categories of wastes as non-high-level waste and to pretreat as necessary and dispose of them via the grout facility. Both NRC and DOE staff concluded that more discussions are needed to clarify the classification of wastes in the remaining four categories. DOE extended an invitation to the NRC staff to visit the Hanford site and view the project facilities that are currently in place. Additional discussions on waste classification could take place at that time.

The NRC reiterated that the source-based definition set forth in 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix F is the applicable definition for determining whether or not a particular radioactive waste stream is high-level waste.

D. M. Smith 7/5/88.

for Ronald E. Gerton
U. S. Department of Energy

Regis R. Boyle 6/28/88

Regis R. Boyle
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

List of Attendees

Attachment 1

Attendee	Organizational Affiliation	Phone
Chad Glenn	NRC / NMSS	FTS 492-0567
Regis Boyle	NRC / NMSS / Low-Level Waste	FTS 492-0559
James Wolf	NRC/OGC/LLWFC	FTS 492-1641
Cherri DeFigh-Price	Westinghouse Hanford	FTS 444-1804
Paula Clark	US DOE - Richland Operations	FTS 444-4718
Edward Regnier	DOE/OCRWM	586 4590
Dan Fehringer	NRC (HLWM)	492-0426
Ray Pelletier	DOE/HQ Environmental Guidance	586-6505
W.T. (Sonny) Goldston	DOE/Savannah River	239-5532
Ronald E. Geeton	DOE Richland	FTS 444-5557
Robert M Cressini	DOE Richland	FTS 444-2024
Don Woodrich	WHC Richland	FTS 490-2038
Martha Crosland	DOE/OGC	586-6947
Gerald H. Daly	DOE HQ DP-123	353-4187
Mike Bell	NRC/LLWM/RB	FTS 492-3435
John T. Greeves	NRC/LLW/	301 492-3344