

*Encl. to memo -
Feltton Jr. Miller
7/12/83*

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NRC REGULATORY COMMISSION
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY -
DRAFT REVIEW PLAN

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ACTION: Notice of Availability

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed a draft on the "NRC Review Plan - Quality Assurance for Site Characterization of High Level Nuclear Waste Repositories."

A public comment period has been scheduled for 45 days following publication of this Notice of Availability.

ADDRESS: Copies of this draft document may be obtained free of charge upon written request to Nancy Still, Docket Control Center, Division of Waste Management, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop 623-SS, Washington, DC 20555, (301) 427-4426.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jay E. Rhoderick, Project Manager, High-Level Waste Technical Development Branch, Division of Waste Management, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone No. (301) 427-4682.

Supplementary Information:

This review plan is one in a series of technical documents prepared by the NRC staff guiding review of quality assurance aspects of DOE site characterization programs at potential repository sites to assure that adequate information is being gathered for licensing. (Subsequent technical documents will be noticed in the Federal Register). In the review plan, the NRC staff has identified its approach and the specific criteria to be applied in reviewing the quality assurance programs of site characterization activities. This review plan effectively provides guidance to DOE on what the NRC considers necessary in establishing a quality assurance program for site characterization activities.

The principal mechanism for providing guidance to the DOE is completion by the NRC staff of Site Characterization Analyses which document critical reviews on DOE Site Characterization Plans submitted according to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (P.L. 97-425). The NRC staff

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already has dealt with major issues of High Level Waste Isolation in a comprehensive fashion in NUREG-0960, the Draft Site Characterization Analysis of the Site Characterization Report for the Basalt Waste Isolation Project. In NUREG-0960, the NRC staff identifies the full range of issues that will need to be addressed in evaluating performance of the repository system, including both natural and engineered barriers.

On selected key issues important to repository performance such as quality assurance, the staff will be addressing generic concerns in technical documents which are developed through a process that allows for public comment. The intent of the staff is to assure that guidance is provided to DOE at an early time and thus assure that the DOE gathers needed data in site characterization programs.

Dated at Silver Spring, Maryland, this 12th day of July 1983.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/s/

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