

May 25, 2005

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE PRE-LICENSE APPLICATION PRESIDING OFFICER BOARD

In the Matter of ) Docket No. PAPO-00  
 )  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ) ASLBP No. 04-829-01-PAPO  
 )  
(High Level Waste Repository: )  
Pre-Application Matters) )

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S ESTIMATE OF SCHEDULE FOR REDACTION OF  
PRIVACY, ARCHEOLOGICAL, AND BUSINESS PROPRIETARY DOCUMENTS**

At the May 18, 2005 Case Management Conference, the Pre-License Application Presiding Officer (PAPO) Board directed the United States Department of Energy (DOE) to provide an estimate of its anticipated time frame for completing the redaction process for documents subject to DOE's assertion of privacy, archeological, and business proprietary privileges (May 18, 2005 Transcript at 326-27).<sup>1</sup> DOE provides that estimate below.

• **SCHEDULE ESTIMATE**

DOE estimates that redaction will be a four- to five-month process, consisting of the following general steps in the process, some of which will overlap: (i) pre-redaction activities (e.g., preparation and approval of staffing and budget plans, recruiting and training of personnel, and modifying software applications), (ii) screening of identified documents for LSN relevance, (iii) on-line redaction of protected information, (iv) FOIA office, contractor, and counsel review of proposed redactions, (v) corrected redactions, (vi) preparation of OCR text for redacted images, (vii) creation and modification of document headers for redacted documents, and (viii)

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<sup>1</sup> This estimate does not address redactions associated with employee concerns files, which were addressed separately by the PAPO Board. May 18, 2005 Transcript at 318.

processing redacted documents and document headers for electronic availability on the DOE LSN server. Excluded from this estimate is the time period necessary for the LSN Administrator to index the redacted documents and document headers.

- **GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS**

DOE's redaction schedule estimate is intended to be conservative and accordingly is premised on the assumption that approximately 95,000 documents will enter the process described above, although DOE ultimately expects that a significantly smaller number of documents will emerge from the process as both LSN relevant and in need of redaction. As described in DOE's May 3, 2005 Projection of Protected Documents by Category, DOE's assumptions are derived from an ongoing review process. Thus the number of documents actually entering the redaction process and emerging as LSN relevant and redacted documents may vary from that projection. DOE's redaction estimate is further premised on inherently uncertain assumptions about available funding, staffing and the percentage of documents that will prove to (i) be LSN relevant, (ii) be redacted accurately by DOE's litigation contractor, and (iii) require a corrected redaction.

Respectfully submitted,

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

By *Kelly L. Faglioni*

Donald P. Irwin  
Michael R. Shebelskie  
Kelly L. Faglioni  
HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP  
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower  
951 East Byrd Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219-4074  
Telephone: (804) 788-8200

Facsimile: (804) 788-8218  
Email: dirwin@hunton.com

Of Counsel:

Martha S. Crosland  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of General Counsel  
Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dated: May 25, 2005

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	)	ASLBP No. 04-829-01-PAPO
	)	
(High Level Waste Repository: Pre-Application Matters)	)	NEV-01
	)	

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S ESTIMATE OF SCHEDULE FOR REDACTION OF  
PRIVACY, ARCHEOLOGICAL, AND BUSINESS PROPRIETARY DOCUMENTS  
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that copies of the foregoing DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S ESTIMATE OF SCHEDULE FOR REDACTION OF PRIVACY, ARCHEOLOGICAL, AND BUSINESS PROPRIETARY DOCUMENTS has been served upon the following persons by electronic mail and/or Electronic Information Exchange as denoted by an asterisk (\*).

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop - T-3 F23  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Thomas S. Moore, Chair\*  
Administrative Judge  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Alex S. Karlin\*  
Administrative Judge  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Alan S. Rosenthal\*  
Administrative Judge  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov & rsnthl@comcast.net  
G. Paul Bollwerk, III\*  
Administrative Judge  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Anthony C. Eitreim, Esq.\*  
Chief Counsel  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
James M. Cutchin\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Bethany L. Engel\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov

Amy C. Roma, Esq.\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Jonathan Rund\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Susan Stevenson-Popp\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Christopher M. Wachter\*  
E-mail: PAPO@nrc.gov  
Daniel J. Graser\*  
LSN Administrator  
E-mail: djg2@nrc.gov  
ASLBP HLW Adjudication  
E-mail: ASLBP\_HLW\_Adjudication@nrc.gov

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission  
Mail Stop - O-16 C1  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Hearing Docket\*  
E-mail: hearingdocket@nrc.gov  
Andrew L. Bates\*  
E-mail: alb@nrc.gov  
Adria T. Byrdson\*  
E-mail: atb1@nrc.gov

**Emile L. Julian, Esq.\***

E-mail: els@nrc.gov

**Evangeline S. Ngbea\***

E-mail: esn@nrc.gov

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

**Office of the General Counsel**

Mail Stop - O-15 D21

Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Karen D. Cyr, Esq.**

**General Counsel**

E-mail: kdc@nrc.gov

**Shelly D. Cole, Esq.\***

E-mail: sdc1@nrc.gov

**David A. Cummings, Esq.\***

E-mail: dac3@nrc.gov

**Gwendolyn D. Hawkins\***

E-mail: gxh2@nrc.gov

**Janice E. Moore, Esq.\***

E-mail: jem@nrc.gov

**Trip Rothschild, Esq.**

E-mail: tbr@nrc.gov

**Tyson R. Smith, Esq.\***

E-mail: trs1@nrc.gov

**Mitzi A. Young, Esq.\***

E-mail: may@nrc.gov

**Marian L. Zobler, Esq.\***

E-mail: mlz@nrc.gov

**OGC Mail Center\***

E-mail: OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov

**Hunton & Williams LLP**

**Counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy**

Riverfront Plaza, East Tower

951 East Byrd Street

Richmond, VA 23219

**W. Jeffery Edwards, Esq.\***

E-mail: jedwards@hunton.com

**Kelly L. Faglioni, Esq.\***

E-mail: kfaglioni@hunton.com

**Melissa Grier\***

E-mail: mgrier@hunton.com

**Donald P. Irwin, Esq.\***

E-mail: dirwin@hunton.com

**Stephanie Meharg\***

E-mail: smeharg@hunton.com

**Edward P. Noonan, Esq.\***

E-mail: enoonan@hunton.com

**Audrey B. Rusteau\***

E-mail: arusteau@hunton.com

**Michael R. Shebelskie, Esq.\***

E-mail: mshebelskie@hunton.com

**Christopher A. Updike\***

E-mail: cupdike@hunton.com

**Belinda A. Wright\***

E-mail: bwright@hunton.com

**Egan, Fitzpatrick, Malsch & Cynkar, PLLC  
Counsel for the State of Nevada**

The American Center at Tysons Corner

8300 Boone Boulevard, Suite 340

Vienna, VA 22182

**Robert J. Cynkar, Esq.\***

E-mail: rcynkar@nuclearlawyer.com

**Joseph R. Egan, Esq.\***

E-mail: eganpc@aol.com

**Charles J. Fitzpatrick, Esq.\***

E-mail: cfitzpatrick@nuclearlawyer.com

**Jack Kewley\***

E-mail: jkewley@nuclearlawyer.com

**Martin G. Malsch, Esq.\***

E-mail: mmalsch@nuclearlawyer.com

**Susan Montesi\***

E-mail: smontesi@nuclearlawyer.com

**Nakita Toliver\***

E-mail: ntoliver@nuclearlawyer.com

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Office of General Counsel**

1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.

Washington, DC 20585

**Martha S. Crosland\***

E-mail: martha.crosland@hq.doe.gov

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Mgmt**

**Office of Repository Development**

1551 Hillshire Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

**W. John Arthur, III, Deputy Director**

E-mail: john\_arthur@notes.ymp.gov

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Mgmt**

**Office of Information Mgmt**

Mail Stop 523, P.O. Box 30307

North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

**Harry Leake**

E-mail: harry\_leake@ymp.gov;

**Mark Van Der Puy**

E-mail: mark\_vanderpuy@ymp.gov

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Office of General Counsel**

1551 Hillshire Drive

Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

George W. Hellstrom

E-mail: george.hellstrom@ymp.gov

**Yucca Mountain Project, Licensing Group,  
DOE/BSC**

**Jeffrey Kriner\***

E-mail: jeffrey\_kriner@ymp.gov

**Nuclear Waste Project Office**

1761 East College Parkway, Suite 118

Carson City, NV 89706

**Steve Frishman, Tech. Policy Coordinator**

E-mail: ssteve@nuc.state.nv.us

**Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board**

**Victoria Reich**

E-mail: reich@nwtrb.gov

**Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force**

Alamo Plaza, 4550 W. Oakley Blvd., Suite 111

Las Vegas, NV 89102

**Judy Treichel, Executive Director**

E-mail: judynwtf@aol.com

**State of Nevada (NV)**

100 N. Carson Street

Carson City, NV 89710

**Marta Adams**

E-mail: madams@govmail.state.nv.us

**Churchill County (NV)**

155 North Taylor Street, Suite 182

Fallon, NV 89406

**Alan Kall**

E-mail: comptroller@churchillcounty.org

**Clark County (NV) Nuclear Waste Division**

500 S. Grand Central Parkway

Las Vegas, NV 89155

**Irene Navis**

E-mail: iln@co.clark.nv.us

**Engelbrecht von Tiesenhausen**

E-mail: evt@co.clark.nv.us

**Eureka County (NV) Yucca Mtn Info Ofc**

P.O. Box 990

Eureka, NV 89316

**Laurel Marshall, Program Coordinator**

E-mail: ecmarschall@eurekanv.org

**Lincoln County (NV) Nuclear Oversight Prgm**

100 Depot Ave., Suite 15; P.O. Box 1068

Caliente, NV 89008-1068

**Lea Rasura-Alfano, Coordinator**

E-mail: jcciac@co.lincoln.nv.us

**Intertech Services Corporation  
(for Lincoln County)**

P.O. Box 2008

Carson City, NV 89702-2008

**Dr. Mike Baughman**

E-mail: bigboff@aol.com

**Mineral County (NV) Board of County  
Commissioners**

P.O. Box 1600

Hawthorne, NV 89415

**Linda Mathias, Administrator**

**Office of Nuclear Projects**

E-mail: mineral@oem.hawthorne.nv.us

**Nye County (NV) Department of Natural  
Resources & Federal Facilities**

1210 E. Basin Road, Suite 6

Pahrump, NV 89048

**Les Bradshaw**

E-mail: clittle@co.nye.nv.us

**Nye County (NV) Regulatory/Licensing Adv.**

18150 Cottonwood Rd. #265

Sunriver, OR 97707

**Malachy Murphy**

E-mail: mrmurphy@cmc.net

**White Pine County (NV) Nuclear  
Waste Project Office**

959 Campton Street

Ely, NV 89301

**Mike Simon, Director**

**(Heidi Williams, Adm. Assist.)**

E-mail: wpnucwst1@mwpower.net

**Inyo County (CA) Yucca Mtn Nuclear Waste  
Repository Assessment Office**

P.O. Drawer L

Independence, CA 93526

**Andrew Remus, Project Coordinator**

E-mail: aremus@gnet.com

**Abby Johnson**

617 Terrace St.

Carson City, NV 89703

E-mail: abbyj@gbis.com

**National Congress of American Indians**

1301 Connecticut Ave. NW - Second floor

Washington, DC 20036

**Robert I. Holden, Director**

**Nuclear Waste Program**

E-mail: robert\_holden@ncai.org

**Public Citizen**

215 Pennsylvania Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

**Michele Boyd, Legislative Representative\***  
**Critical Mass Energy and Environment**

E-mail: mboyd@citizen.org

**Public Citizen Litigation Group**

1600 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009

**Brian Wolfman, Esq.**

E-mail: bwolfman@citizen.org

**Ross, Dixon & Bell**

2001 K Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20006-1040

**William H. Briggs**

E-mail: wbriggs@rdblaw.com

**Environment Protection Agency**

**Ray Clark**

E-mail: clark.ray@epa.gov

**Nuclear Energy Institute**

1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708

**Michael A. Bauser, Esq.\***

Associate General Counsel

E-mail: mab@nei.org

**Robert W. Bishop, Esq.**

E-mail: rwb@nei.org

**Ellen C. Ginsberg, Esq.\***

E-mail: ecg@nei.org

**Rod McCullum**

E-mail: rxm@nei.org

**Steven P. Kraft**

E-mail: spk@nei.org

**White Pine County**

**City of Caliente**

**Lincoln County**

Jason Pitts

E-mail: idt@idtservices.com

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

By 

Donald P. Irwin

Michael R. Shebelskie

Kelly L. Faglioni

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Riverfront Plaza, East Tower

951 East Byrd Street

Richmond, Virginia 23219-4074

Telephone: (804) 788-8200

Facsimile: (804) 788-8218

Email: dirwin@hunton.com

Of Counsel:

Martha S. Crosland

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of General Counsel

Department of Energy

1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20585