

From: James Salsman [jsalsman@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2008 12:26 PM
To: Mahendra Shah
Cc: Jeff Clark; Norma Garcia-Santos; Christopher Staab; Eugene Peters; Giovanna Longo; Catherine Marco; tjlodge50@yahoo.com; Rita Hindin; rosaliertell@greynun.org
Subject: Re: Petition Review Board Teleconference on October 16, 2008
Attachments: proposed_graph.png

Dear Dr. Shah,

Thank you for your phone call. I look forward to speaking with you and the Board today.

May I call the 1-800-368-5642 switchboard number and ask for the Yucca Mountain Project? I will try that first, and call back at 1-301-816-5100 if it doesn't work.

Here are some additional questions which will serve to support my petition by explaining why I don't understand why the Board had asked for more specific meteorological predictions:

1. Is the "hours submerged" rating of a dry cask anything more than the fact that a similar cask has withstood the indicated amount of time submerged?
2. How many casks of a new design are required to be tested before the design is given an "hours submerged" rating?
3. How many casks are in service at the different "hours submerged" ratings?
4. How many are expected to be over time (referring to attached graph data)?
5. How is integrity assured? (e.g. accoustic or other imaging, pH meters)
6. How is the integrity of sealant or seal material anticipated?
7. How is the integrity of shorter-than-metal-lifetime seal material measured?
8. How is the integrity of relatively short lifetime seal material corrected in the event of degradation?
9. Are there plans for replacing a damaged cask for each of the designs in service?
10. How many welds in dry casks of each "hours submerged" rating level?
11. How long does it typically take to close a cask of each "hours submerged" rating level?
12. How long does it typically take to open a cask of each "hours submerged" rating level?

13. How many different designs of casks are in service?
14. How many of each design are in service?
15. May the general public inspect cask designs?
16. Are the casks modeled with finite element analysis? If so, how many elements are used in the models for the currently preferred designs at the different "hours submerged" ratings?

Can finite element analysis of cask designs yield information about the cask's acoustic signature which would be useful in determining ways to measure the structural integrity of the cask?

If there is no ability or willingness to answer any of these questions, please accept them as a Freedom of Information Act Request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Salsman

On Wed, Oct 15, 2008 at 8:49 AM, Mahendra Shah <Mahendra.Shah@nrc.gov> wrote:

> Dear Mr. Salsman:

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> Thanks for your prompt response to my e-mail. For the teleconference tomorrow, please call the NRC Headquarters Operations Center at 301-816-5100 and ask for the "Yucca Mountain Project."

>

> I have attached the agenda for the teleconference, for your information. We look forward to hearing from you tomorrow on the relevant additional explanation and support for your petition.

Thanks.

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> Mahendra

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> Dr. Mahendra J. Shah, P.E., F. ASCE

> Sr. Level Advisor - Engineering

> Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety Office of Nuclear

> Material Safety and Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: James Salsman [mailto:jsalsman@gmail.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2008 2:48 AM

> To: Mahendra Shah

> Cc: Jeff Clark; Norma Garcia-Santos; Christopher Staab; Eugene Peters;

> Giovanna Longo; Catherine Marco; tjlodge50@yahoo.com; Rita Hindin;

> rosaliebertell@greynun.org

> Subject: Re: Petition Review Board Teleconference on October 16, 2008

>

> Dear Dr. Shah,

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> The nature, timing, and magnitude of extreme weather events are stochastic, and are therefore unavailable to meet your request. The most that can be said about the proven, peer-reviewed meteorological fact that severe flooding events will continue to increase has already been said in the information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration referred to in my 2.206 petition.

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> I look forward forward to providing support of that fact and other aspects of my 2.206 petition to the Petition Review Board on Thursday.

> I will be asking what level of detail about increasing flooding you require, and asking for the data to help understand the graph I proposed. The format for the graph I proposed is attached.

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> Please remember that every question is an explanation that further information is required.

> Therefore, I reserve the right to ask questions in support of my petitions, in accordance with your policy that the PRB meeting serves to provide explanation.

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> Sincerely,

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> James Salsman

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