

**Sandia Laboratories**

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

NOV 1 1 1980

William R. Rutherford  
RCI/OIE  
East-West Towers  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SNL/IEHQ, T-MLSR, 04

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

Re: Monthly Letter Status Report for October, 1980. Environmental Qualification of Safety-Related Equipment, B3101, 0711.040

Authorization for this program was received through DOE/Albuquerque by letter dated July 1, 1980; the official start date for this program was August 1. Previous efforts under this task are described in letters, SNL/IEHQ, T-MLSR, 01 thru 03.

During October, some \$18K was charged against the project budget case. (All values are rounded to the nearest \$1K.) Of this, \$15K was charged as loaded salaries, \$1K was charged as technical support (shop and testing services), and \$2K was charged as direct charges (travel and minor purchases). Because of the billing process, certain travel/purchases may not be actually reflected in the appropriate-month charges; these usually experience 2-4 weeks delay before actually being billed to the case. To date, the charges billed total \$51K.

Based on an increasing level-of-effort and additional staff support to be dedicated to the project, we estimate that the charges for November and December will be about \$30K each month.

L. Bonzon met with IE staff on October 30 in Bethesda. Major areas of discussion were: revision of the factory splices and insulation rework test plan; staffing and other programmatic considerations; Sandia comments on NUREG-0588; FY 81 funding supplement; development of a solenoid valve test plan; scheduled meeting of NRC and Sandia personnel in mid-November in Bethesda.

To continue to support this effort, a job description was posted in the internal Sandia bulletin on October 31. Applicants will be interviewed in November; we expect that an additional full-time person will be available to the program in late-December or January.

The following paragraphs briefly discuss the October efforts which were centered in three of the program tasks.

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3. Qualification Criteria
4. Inspection Procedures

Detailed review of NUREG-0588 was completed by Sandia staff and forwarded on October 10 as SNL/IEHQ, T-3, 02. The comments are divided into comments on its content and quality and on its inspectability (or rather the difficulty in inspection procedures writing). These comments are to be used in conjunction with our comments on proposed Regulatory Guide 1.89 Rev. 1, Working Paper B, dated July 24, 1980. These were forwarded to you in letter SNL/IEHQ, T-3, 01, dated August 22, 1980.

As a method of evaluating the Criteria, more detailed inspection procedures were written, for internal use, to determine the applicability and inspectability of the Criteria. This effort is continuing. We expect that these will be a discussion item at the mid-November Sandia-IE meeting.

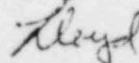
7. Independent Verification Testing

During September, a preliminary test plan on electrical cable factory splices and insulation rework was prepared and informally submitted. Based on reviewer comments, the plan was revised and officially transmitted on October 7 as SNL/IEHQ, T-7, 04. Based on this plan, aging of tensile specimens from one manufacturer (not the cable themselves), was initiated to examine the effect of aging sequence. Additional cable samples are expected as a result of IE-staff efforts.

Effort was also initiated on a test plan for solenoid valves. A first draft plan is expected to be sent in early November. Fourteen solenoid valves have been ordered for this verification test.

I trust that this report illustrates the progress and direction of the Sandia effort. Please feel free to comment on its style and content relative to future monthly reports.


Very truly yours,



Lloyd L. Bonzon  
Systems Safety Information  
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