

FEB 04 1994

Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Associate Director
for Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy RW-30
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 9, 1993, MULTI-PURPOSE CANISTER (MPC)
TECHNICAL EXCHANGE

I am enclosing the minutes from the November 9, 1993, technical exchange on the multi-purpose canister concept. The purpose of the exchange was to provide Department of Energy (DOE) staff and contractors an opportunity to present results from MPC system conceptual design reports and associated studies.

If you have any questions on the minutes, please contact John Cook of my staff at (301) 504-2458.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Charles J. Haughney

Charles J. Haughney, Chief
Storage and Transport Systems Branch
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety, NMSS

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Attached List

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Minutes from the November 9, 1993 Technical Exchange
on the Multi-Purpose Canister Concept

On November 9, 1993, staff from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), Department of Energy (DOE), met for a presentation by DOE and DOE contractors on Multi-Purpose Canister (MPC) system conceptual design reports and associated studies. The purpose of the meeting was to initiate a process of early and frequent interactions between NRC and DOE staff on issues related to the MPC, and to provide an opportunity for informal and preliminary NRC technical input on the storage and transportation aspects of the MPC concept. DOE representatives stated that DOE has made no decision to proceed with the MPC concept, that the information presented in the meeting is subject to change should an MPC program be initiated, and that all schedules are tentative. DOE representatives also indicated that an information package on the MPC concept for potential vendors will be made available shortly through the Commerce Business Daily. The list of attendees is Attachment 1.

The meeting opened with a DOE/OCRWM description of the MPC concept and operating strategy, including conceptual design bases, identification of technical and programmatic issues, and a tentative schedule for MPC development (Attachment 2). A DOE contractor then discussed work on the design of the MPC canister, including a review of preliminary MPC design drawings, and results from structural, thermal and criticality analyses (Attachment 3). A review of preliminary conceptual design drawings, and structural and shielding analyses, for the MPC transportation cask was then presented by a second DOE contractor (Attachment 4). The final presentation, also provided by a DOE contractor, summarized efforts on repository MPC design considerations. This work included possible waste package configurations, repository emplacement, results of materials evaluation, and criticality and thermal analyses (Attachment 5).

NRC staff suggested that scale-model testing of the MPC basket could expedite the transportation certification review process.

Senator Hickey of the State of Nevada indicated that retrievability was not explicitly addressed in the prepared presentation and should be factored into the MPC concept. DOE representatives and contractors responded that retrievability, although not a meeting briefing item, had been considered conceptually at this stage of the MPC development work.

The meeting concluded with no action items being taken.

Earl P. Easton, Jr. 2/3/94

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Storage and Transport Systems Branch
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety, NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Priscilla Bunton 2/1/94

Priscilla Bunton
Regulatory Integration Branch
Office of Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy

MULTI-PURPOSE CANISTER SYSTEM
UPDATE ON CONCEPTUAL DESIGN
REPORTS AND ASSOCIATED STUDIES
NOVEMBER 2, 1993

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