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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert E. Browning, Deputy Director
Division of Waste Management

R.A Scarano, Branch Chief
Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch

THRU: P.H. Lohaus, Section Leader
Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch

FROM: Ken Jackson, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT: ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF STATE
RADIATION CONTROL DIRECTORS

Enclosed please find trip report on Meeting of State Radiation Control
Directors, held in Louisville Kentucky.

Original Signed By

Ken Jackson, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch

Enclosure: as stated

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Trip Report: Attendance at Meeting of State Radiation
Control Directors

The subject meeting was held September 20-23, 1982 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. Along with the writer, this meeting was also attended by P.H. Lohaus, WMLL, and F.W. Young, SP. L.W. Meyer represented the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of the meeting was to call together two of the Radiation Control Conference Committees to develop a low-level waste management questionnaire which could be applied uniformly to all states in support of developing a common data base reporting system for low-level waste. The Department of Energy (DOE), through its low-level waste management contractor, EG&G, Idaho is sponsoring this and follow-on activities of the conference through a 5-year grant.

The first day (afternoon) September 20, was largely devoted to demonstration of the common data base system that is under development by DOE. EG&G was represented by Steve Everett, Program Manager and Tina Jouse, Systems Analyst. Participants were encouraged to exercise the machine to retrieve selected data. Much of the information in the DOE system was extracted from state-by-state "briefing books," results of questionnaires developed by David Levine, private consultant, for the State of Massachusetts low-level waste licensees and the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB). Copies of these survey questionnaires are attached. Other information input came from information submitted by NRC for NRC licensees, and information compiled by NRC from hand tabulation of burial ground data.

The first full day of the meeting, (September 21), included an outlining of the purpose of the DOE grant by C. Hardin, of Kentucky, who chaired the meeting. The primary purposes of the grant is to: (1) identify and characterize LLW in the U.S.; (2) develop and measure progress of state legislation and regulation (3) utilize through computer, essential data for state use; and (4) keep up with work of compacts. The scope would include annual volume inputs from each state, radionuclide concentration, summary of legislation and regulation from states, and annual update of the printout by states.

Dr. Gerald Hill of SSEB gave an overview of SSEB LLW activities. About 2 1/2 years ago SSEB was asked to take a look at LLW volumes being generated by Southern States and to help answer the question of what is needed to get LLW sites up and operating. SSEB proceeded to lay out model

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form compact language, and to look at some things needed to go into developing a site. Also under an NRC (RES) contract, SSEB is investigating how the alternative site issue for reactor siting may be expedited, and tying in LLW siting to prevent delays.

In the Tuesday afternoon session, Dave Levine explained the efforts of his firm Interface in developing the questionnaire which was used to survey licensees in Massachusetts. This effort was also funded by DOE. The primary purposes for the questionnaire were that it (1) have general applicability (2) meet needs of the Radiation Control Director in Massachusetts and (3) make available information for the State Commission on LLW (Massachusetts has been proposed as a host state for a LLW site). While the survey was directed to all licensees, it viewed licensees as being divided into 3 major classes according to the type and volume of waste produced: high priority, middle priority and low priority licensees. An overall response rate of 98% was obtained. Based on their experience, Levine felt that the state could be most effective in soliciting the desired information.

Wednesday morning, September 22 was given over to a discussion by Paul Lohaus on the current status of Part 61 and NRC's role in the data base development effort. Paul reviewed current activities involving Part 61 and indicated that all of the sections relating to establishing and operating a site would become effective 30 days after publication of the Rule in the Federal Register. The technical requirements relating to manifests, waste form and classification will become effective one year from date of publication. Paul also indicated that NRC would cooperate with the states in the data base effort, in particular, supply the states with copies of NRC licensees broken down by state so that the states could contact them through the survey. It was noted the states would be much more effective in this effort through their responsibilities, under the LLW Policy Act than would be NRC as a regulatory agency.

Paul and Ken Jackson also discussed the cooperative efforts with non-fuel cycle waste generators in support of Part 61, and some of the results of those studies performed by Brookhaven National Laboratory. Jackson stated that NRC believes that there are about 100 waste generators who produce some 98% of the low-level wastes. This number includes some 74 power reactors. Jackson agreed to furnish Hardin with a draft of NRC's review of non-fuel cycle waste generation in support of the survey efforts.

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The remainder of the session on Wednesday focused on establishing the questionnaire that would be used to survey all the states, beginning with a discussion on the potential users of the data. These were identified as: State Radiation Program Directors, Congress, other State and Federal regulatory bodies, NRC, DOE, EPA, Compact Commission negotiators, industry associations, and the public. As to how the data will be used, a few examples given were: prioritization of waste generators for states, cost/benefit analysis for disposal alternatives (assistance to decision makers), comparison of uniform state-by-state data, augmentation of inspection and licensing procedures, and further development of national criteria. Extensive use was made of the two existing survey questionnaires in developing a draft suitable to all attendees.

All parties in attendance participated in development of the survey. The NRC representatives advised that in their opinion, the survey would be most successful if the State Radiation Control Directors were promulgators of the survey. Efforts in the afternoon session were devoted to detail development of the survey questionnaire, using the models from the Massachusetts survey and the SSEB survey.

Thursday morning, September 23, was devoted to wrap-up of the survey questionnaire. Chuck Hardin committed to send the draft to each of the participants for review and comment. It is expected that a revised questionnaire will be sent out to all the State Radiation Control Directors by February for review and comment. After comments have been received from the Radiation Control Directors, the survey questionnaire will be finalized and sent to the states. It will then be the responsibility of each Radiation Control Director to send the survey to waste generators in the state. Chuck Hardin's office will collate the data and prepare a report on survey results. EG&G representatives agreed to furnish Hardin with the list of licensees that they have received from NRC. NRC representatives committed to furnish further information needed to fill any gaps.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

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