



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 29, 2021

Mr. John A. Mullis II
Acting Associate Principal Deputy
Assistant Secretary for Regulatory
and Policy Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Environmental Management
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-1290

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DRAFT
WASTE INCIDENTAL TO REPROCESSING EVALUATION FOR THE TEST
BED INITIATIVE DEMONSTRATION FOR DETAILED TECHNICAL REVIEW
(DOCKET NUMBER PROJ0736)

Dear Ms. Connell:

By letter dated October 29, 2021 (U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's [NRC's] Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML21322A138), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) submitted to the NRC a request to conduct a consultative review of the Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing (WIR) Evaluation for the Test Bed Initiative Demonstration (Draft WIR Evaluation).

The Draft WIR Evaluation assesses whether the waste is incidental to the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, is not high-level radioactive waste, and may be managed as low-level radioactive waste, under the criteria in Section II.B.(2)(a) of the DOE Manual 435.1-1, Radioactive Waste Management Manual.

The NRC has completed its administrative preliminary review of the Draft WIR Evaluation. The NRC finds that the submittal is complete, and the NRC will proceed with the detailed technical review. An approximate schedule for completion of this review is indicated in the following table.

Action	Schedule
Test Bed Initiative Demonstration submittal	October 29, 2021
NRC Preliminary Review	November 29, 2021
Issue Request for Additional Information (RAI)	January 20, 2022
Receive RAI responses	February 28, 2022
Complete Draft Technical Evaluation Report (TER)	April 1, 2022
NRC and DOE discussion on TER (if necessary)	April 15, 2022
NRC transmits TER to DOE	May 6, 2022

If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated in separate correspondence.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 2.390, "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact Project Manager, Maurice Heath at 301-415-3137 or by e-mail, Maurice.Heath@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Ralph, Melissa
on 11/29/21

Melissa Ralph, Acting Branch Chief
Low-Level Waste and Projects Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: PROJ0736

cc: S. Ross, DOE

Preliminary Review of the U.S. Department of Energy Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Evaluation for the Test Bed Initiative Demonstration for Detailed Technical Review (Docket Number PROJ0736)
 DATE November 29, 2021

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DATE	Nov 29, 2021	Nov 29, 2021	Nov 29, 2021	Nov 29, 2021

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