



**Department of Energy**  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
Office of Repository Development  
1551 Hillshire Drive  
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QA: N/A  
Project No. WM-00011

**NOV 28 2003**

OVERNIGHT MAIL

**ATTN: Document Control Desk**  
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**KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE (KTI) AGREEMENT RESPONSE SCHEDULE**

References: (1) Ltr, Ziegler to Schlueter, dtd 6/23/03  
(2) Ltr, Schlueter to Ziegler, dtd 10/29/03  
(3) Ltr, Schlueter to Ziegler, dtd 10/21/03

This letter transmits a revised schedule for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) delivery of responses to the remaining KTI agreements and "Additional Information Needs" (AIN). This schedule supercedes the schedule previously sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in Reference 1.

Consistent with our recent KTI agreement submittals, the majority of the remaining KTI agreement responses are organized into response groups that correlate to the relevant parts of the Yucca Mountain Project postclosure analysis. Each response group will be submitted with a technical basis document, which summarizes the current conceptional understanding of the technical area. In some cases, the response group consists of subgroups of responses to be submitted at different times. Also, a small number of the remaining KTI agreements and AINs are expected to be submitted as individual responses. Enclosures 1, 2 and 3 identify the remaining KTI agreement and AIN responses and their planned delivery dates to the NRC. Enclosure 1 presents this information by KTI agreement number, Enclosure 2 by group, and Enclosure 3 by schedule date to NRC.

Although the schedule for any individual agreement response may have changed, significant improvement has been made in the overall schedule. The agreements that NRC considers to have "high-risk significance" along with other agreements previously scheduled to be submitted in fiscal year (FY) 2005 have been accelerated into FY 2004 (see Enclosure 4, June 2003 and November 2003 KTI Agreement Response Schedules). For the three "high-risk significance" agreements that were previously shown to complete after the anticipated submittal of the License Application (Container Life and Source Term (CLST) 1.04, 2.04, and 2.05), DOE now anticipates information to be available to submit complete responses in April 2004.

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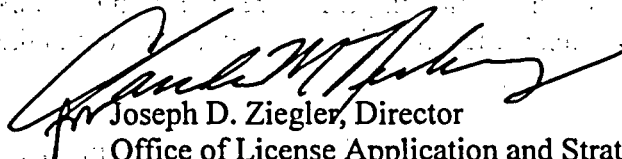
The NRC evaluation of CLST 5.04, Evolution of Near-Field Environment 5.03, and Radionuclide Transport 4.03 response, received on November 12, 2003 (Reference 2), is currently under review by DOE. The NRC evaluation stated that these agreements are considered only partially received, and also requested additional information. DOE will provide a response to your letter, with specific dates to re-address these agreements.

Remaining agreements will be addressed by August 2004 except Preclosure 7.04 AIN-1, received on October 27, 2003, which will be addressed in the License Application, consistent with the expectations of the NRC as expressed in Reference 3.

The DOE welcomes opportunities to discuss its technical approach to addressing the KTI agreements and AINs as the NRC staff finds necessary, and is prepared to schedule public interactions in that regard at the mutual convenience of DOE and NRC.

The enclosed information represents new DOE commitment dates for delivery of the responses to the remaining KTI agreements and AINs.

Please direct any questions regarding this letter to Timothy C. Gunter at (702)-794-1343.



Joseph D. Ziegler, Director  
Office of License Application and Strategy

OLA&S:TCG-0264

Enclosures:

1. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule  
(Sorted by KTI Agreement)
2. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule  
(Sorted by KTI response group and date  
to NRC)
3. Revised KTI Agreement Response Schedule  
(Sorted by date to NRC and KTI response  
group)
4. June 2003 and November 2003  
KTI Agreement Response Schedules

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cc w/encls:

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