



Department of Energy
National Waste Terminal
Storage Program Office
505 King Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43201

WM Record

106

WM Project

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Docket No.

PDR

LPDR

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LCHASE

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

June 2, 1983

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Lawrence Chase, PhD
Division of Waste Management
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Chase:

PHONE CALL TO DISCUSS DATA AVAILABILITY

The phone call we agreed to in the April 19-20 meeting minutes to discuss the character and content of the DOE data base beyond current published reports, actually occurred on May 17, 1983. We appreciate your sending us your May 13, 1983 letter to facilitate the discussion. It is our impression from your letter and the phone call that you want a summary of data such as attached to your letter rather than a bibliographic summary of reports in progress. To produce the kind of summary you have requested would take us several months to either write a summary report of the data in existing and ongoing reports or to produce an initial compilation of data in an automated data retrieval system. We have plans to do both of these types of data summaries for all seven salt sites in the ONWI program. In the near term these summaries could facilitate the writing of the environmental assessments so the earliest we might anticipate summaries to be available for comment would be in conjunction with the production schedule of the EA's. We now anticipate that the EA's would be available in the fall of 1983. Within a month we anticipate having selected a presentation format for summarizing borehole data for use either in a summary report or an automated data system and we will ask you and the salt states to comment on the effectiveness of the proposed formatting.

In the absence of a data summary currently existing in a format similar to Attachment 1 of your letter, you had inquired about a topical report referred to on page 110 of the ONWI quarterly report, ONWI-9(82-4), which documents "the data base" for Richton Dome. The "data base" referred to is actually an automated bibliographic listing of references, not the summary compilation of numeric data you expressed an interest in. Due to the misleading use of the term "data base" as the report descriptor, we have taken this opportunity in the final editorial stages of report preparation to rename the report. It will shortly appear (approximately 5 weeks) as the published report ONWI-480 entitled "Data Reference and Retrieval System - Richton Dome" and, again, it is a bibliography of the reports written about Richton Dome, not a data summary.

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We appreciate your suggestions on how data can be usefully presented and we look forward to further feedback as we review proposed formats for data presentation with you and the salt states in conjunction with our development of a data summary report and automated technical data base management system.


J.O. Neff
Program Manager
NWTs Program Office

NPO:JON:kgh

cc: with incoming May 13, 1983 letter.
H. Bohlinger, LA
S. Frishman, TX
G. Tomsic, UT
R. Forsythe, MS
C. George, DOE-HQ
W. Bennett, DOE-HQ

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