

115/ETT/84/04/26/0

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APR 26 1984

Mr. Holmes Brown
National Governors' Association
Hall of the States
444 North Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Brown:

As promised in our conversation yesterday, attached are the nine questions submitted to us by DOE on Mission Plan matters in response to my letter of March 29, 1984 (also attached). These are the questions that were discussed in the April 11th meeting with DOE.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
Hubert J. Miller

Hubert J. Miller, Chief
Repository Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. DOE-NRC Mission Plan Questions
2. Ltr to Bennett fm Miller dtd 3/29/84

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DOE-NRC Mission Plan

1. What is NRC's position relative to a two-step licensing approach (a CAA for surface facilities prior to site designation, a second CAA for shafts and subsurface development after site designation)?
2. What is NRC's position relative to a 2-stage repository construction approach (a small-scale facility operational by 1998 with a full-scale facility operational later) using one license application?
3. What is NRC's position relative to the development of a second, large-diameter exploratory shaft at each candidate site which would also be used in repository construction and operation at the selected site?
4. What time periods for in situ testing does NRC recommend for the various candidate sites?
5. What level of repository design detail does NRC believe is required prior to the first SCP? Prior to exploratory shaft sinking? Prior to the submission of the CAA?
6. To what level in the repository system does NRC believe that site-specific system component performance requirements are needed? And when, relative to the site characterization and design process?
7. Does NRC believe the Act (Section 114(a)(1)(D) requires them to comment on DOE's final EIS, or the draft EIS, as part of the Secretary's recommendation to the President?
8. Should the "CAA" be called the "license application"?
9. What is NRC's position relative to a CAA containing facilities at the repository site for extensive lag surface storage capacity?