

October 13, 2005

Mr. James Winterle, Manager  
Performance Assessment  
Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses  
6220 Culebra Road, Building 189  
San Antonio, TX 78238-5166

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF A DRAFT STRATEGY FOR CONDUCTING A REVIEW OF SYSTEM  
DESCRIPTION AND DEMONSTRATION OF MULTIPLE BARRIERS  
[METHODOLOGY AND OVERALL SYSTEM PERFORMANCE INTERMEDIATE  
MILESTONE 06002.01.352.550]

Dear Mr. Winterle:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of the subject milestone by the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA). The milestone report was received on September 30, 2005, on the date required in the CNWRA's operations plan for fiscal year 2005. The milestone report and the transmittal letter, which both indicate that they are predecisional, will not be made publically available in their present form.

The footer on the transmittal letter indicates that "The document transmitted herewith contains sensitive unclassified information. When separated from enclosures, this document is decontrolled." Despite this statement I have reviewed the incoming document and have determined that the document does not contain sensitive information. The Center should resubmit the document with the predecisional header and footer removed as this letter, the revised milestone report, and the revised transmittal letter will all be added to a single package in Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). By taking this action of grouping the CNWRA milestone report, the CNWRA transmittal letter, and the NRC's review of the deliverable into a single ADAMS package, an appropriate context for the public to understand the CNWRA's letter and milestone report will have been provided in an associative manner.

The report is well written in clear and plain English, references are used appropriately, and the information was presented in sufficient detail to allow an adequate understanding of the draft strategy. This deliverable in the Methodology and Overall System Performance (MOSP) program element is acceptable. The process used to develop the milestone report was conducive to team building for the review team and should serve as a positive example of cooperation between the CNWRA and NRC staff. The information contained in the deliverable will be considered in further developing a review strategy for the system description and demonstration of multiple barriers review area.

It should be noted that Jim Rubenstone will be the program element manager in fiscal year 2006 for the MOSP program element, and that Bret Leslie will be the project officer for the MOSP element.

J. Winterle

-2-

If you have questions, please contact Bret Leslie, at (301) 415-6652 or by e-mail at [BWL@nrc.gov](mailto:BWL@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bret Leslie, MOSP Program Element Manager  
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

cc: A. Campbell, HLWRS  
J. Rubenstone, HLWRS  
D. Demarco, HLWRS  
B. Meehan, ADM  
O. Osidele, CWNRA  
S. Mohanty, CNWRA

J. Winterle

-2-

If you have questions, please contact Bret Leslie, at (301) 415-6652 or by e-mail at [BWL@nrc.gov](mailto:BWL@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bret Leslie, MOSP Program Element Manager  
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

cc: A. Campbell, HLWRS  
J. Rubenstone, HLWRS  
D. Demarco, HLWRS  
B. Meehan, ADM  
O. Osidele, CNWRA  
S. Mohanty, CNWRA

**DISTRIBUTION:**

|           |            |            |             |          |             |
|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| HLWRS r/f | HLWRSStaff | CGrossman  | EWhitt      | KCompton | TGhoshBHill |
| Albrahim  | TMcCartin  | PJustus    | JRubenstone | RPabalan |             |
| BSagar    | AGhosh     | GWIttmeyer | RJohnson    |          |             |

**ML052770148**

|             |         |  |             |  |           |  |
|-------------|---------|--|-------------|--|-----------|--|
| <b>OFC</b>  | HLWRS   |  | HLWRS       |  | HLWRS     |  |
| <b>NAME</b> | BLeslie |  | JRubenstone |  | ACampbell |  |
| <b>DATE</b> | 10/4/05 |  | 10/13/05    |  | 10/13/05  |  |