

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 POTENTIAL STRATEGY FOR CONDUCTING A REVIEW OF
SCENARIO ANALYSIS AND IDENTIFICATION OF EVENTS WITH
PROBABILITIES GREATER THAN 10^{-8} PER YEAR [METHODOLOGY AND
OVERALL SYSTEM PERFORMANCE INTERMEDIATE MILESTONE
06002.01.352.560]

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 report with only the extraneous paragraphs (repeated paragraphs) on page 11 removed, and the typographic error on page 14 remedied. The Center should also remove the predecisional header and footer. The new transmittal letter should be identical to the original letter, except for an additional sentence. That new sentence (or sentences) should reference this letter and indicate that the enclosed report is identical to the previous submission, with the two exceptions noted. This letter, the revised milestone report, and the new 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 revised milestone report, the new 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 will have been provided in an associative manner.

In general, 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 strategies. 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 teams 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 review strategies for the scenario analysis and identification of events with probabilities greater than 10^{-8} per year review areas.

J. Winterle

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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.

If you have questions, please contact Bret Leslie, at (301) 415-6652 or by e-mail at 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. Pensado, CWNRA
J. Stamatakis, CNWRA
S. Mohanty, CNWRA

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