



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 16, 2014

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NMED
Hazardous Waste Bureau

Mr. Robert McQuinn
President and Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC
4021 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

Dear Mr. McQuinn:

This letter serves as notification of the Office of Independent Enterprise Assessments' Office of Enforcement's decision to conduct an investigation into the facts and circumstances associated with potential programmatic deficiencies in the nuclear safety, radiation protection, emergency management, quality assurance, and worker safety and health programs revealed by the February 2014 fire and radiation release events at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

The Office of Enforcement will conduct this investigation pursuant to the authorities set forth in 10 C.F.R. § 820.21, *Investigations* and 10 C.F.R. § 851.40(a), *Investigations and inspections*. The investigation may include a site visit (date to be determined) and interviews of contractor personnel. The Office of Enforcement will issue a document request separately via e-mail.

Under the Major Fraud Act (MFA), as amended, 41 U.S.C. § 4310, this investigation may be a proceeding commenced by the United States that relates to a violation of, or the failure to comply with, a Federal regulation. Costs incurred in connection with such a proceeding are subject to the reimbursement restrictions of the MFA implemented at 48 C.F.R. § 31.205-47. As a result, any costs incurred by Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC that are directly attributable to supporting the Office of Enforcement's investigation, subsequent to receipt of this letter, should be tracked and segregated from other potentially allowable costs.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (301) 903-7707, or your staff may contact Mr. Kevin Dressman, Director, Office of Worker Safety and Health Enforcement, at (301) 903-5144.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Simonson
Director
Office of Enforcement
Office of Independent Enterprise Assessments

cc: Joe Franco, CBFO
Hung-Cheng Chiou, CBFO
Shane Hendrickson, NWP



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