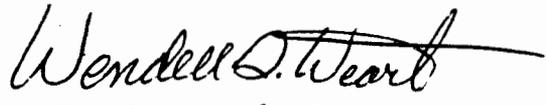


Sandia National Laboratories

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185

date: January 22, 1936
to: Dick Crawley - DOE/WPC


from: W. D. Weart, 6330

RE: Sandia's level of effort in support of the preliminary performance assessment of the WIPP.

At the meeting held last Thursday (1/19/36) in Albuquerque, there was considerable uncertainty about the level of effort that might be involved on the part of Sandia and its contractors in support of the Westinghouse/IT preliminary performance assessment (p.a.) of the WIPP. The estimated effort by I.T. was approximately "quarter-time" per person for participation in each of the three working groups being developed. A total of approximately eight Sandians and technical staff under contract to Sandia were identified by I.T. for these working groups. This represents a diversion of roughly two man years of effort from our ongoing programs, virtually all of which directly address State C&C commitments.

It is our conclusion that we cannot support the Westinghouse/IT p.a. effort at a level of two FTE's without unacceptable technical and scheduling impact on existing commitments made by Sandia. Additional long term funding could rectify this situation should that be an option available to you.

Therefore I suggest that Sandia's role in support of the preliminary performance assessment of the WIPP be circumscribed as follows:

Sandians will be able to serve on the performance-assessment working groups defined in Thursday's meeting only in a "liaison" capacity. By this, we mean that the objective of the Sandians involved will be to keep technical staff and management at Sandia informed about the content and progress of performance assessment and to provide advice to the p.a. effort relative to areas of Sandia expertise. They will not be able to commit any significant time to work on the p.a. studies other than attendance at meetings of the working groups.

860101



As a result of this liaison, Sandia will be better able to judge the input needs of the p.a. which our studies address and to assure communication of developments between both groups. Sandia will of course continue to publish the interpretation of our technical studies.

In summary, while we would like to be more fully involved in the preliminary performance assessment of the WIPP, the present budget and manpower constraints, "tight" schedule for the preliminary performance assessment, and Sandia's existing commitments make a more extensive involvement on our part impossible. Our objectives must be limited to keeping fully informed about the progress and content of the preliminary performance assessment, to considering this in our own efforts to disseminate information, and to advising the p.a. of our own needs to attain our objectives.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions or desire further discussion of this subject.

WDW:6330:nr

6331 A. R. Lappin
6332 L. D. Tyler