



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC  
January 22, 2004

Mr. Mike Carter  
Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (MC5106)  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Mail Code 5106G  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Carter:

As requested in the November 4, 2003, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) letter from Mr. James Woolford to Mr. Andrew Lawrence, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) reviewed the August 2003, draft document entitled "Uniform Federal Policy for Quality Assurance Project Plans (UFP-QAPP) Manual." The DOE-wide review of the draft identified no significant issues or comments.

Overall, the manual developed by Intergovernmental Data Quality Task Force establishes a sound basis for developing reasonable expectations for data quality in sampling and analysis programs that support environmental management and regulatory decisions. As guidance, the UFP- QAPP can be used by the agencies and properly tailored to meet specific needs. It provides reasonable expectations for data quality that should be applicable to most situations but, because it is guidance, when necessary, can be modified or achieved through alternative procedures. Such flexibility is critical for all tools developed to support the application of environmental management systems and should be maintained if the UFP-QAPP were to be included as part of a mandatory requirement in a specific regulation.

DOE appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft document. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Emile Boulos of my staff at: [emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov](mailto:emile.boulos@eh.doe.gov); 202-586-1306.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andrew Wallo", is positioned above the typed name.

Andrew Wallo  
Director  
Office of Air, Water and Radiation  
Protection Policy and Guidance