

July 6, 2000

ALL AGREEMENT STATES
MINNESOTA, OKLAHOMA, PENNSYLVANIA, WISCONSIN

**TECHNICAL INFORMATION: STAFF REPORT ON LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (STP-00-059)**

This letter provides advance notice of the availability of the draft final staff report on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Performance Assessment and proposed responses to comments. If you have new or additional comments, please provide those comments to the contact below within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The staff will consider them, to the extent possible, in preparation of the final staff report. Staff plans to forward the draft final staff report to the Commission by the end of July and publish the final staff report by the end of the year. The staff also briefed the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste at its June meeting. The draft final staff report is available at the Technical Conference Forum <http://techconf.llnl.gov/cgi-states/topics>. Although the version of the report available on the web site is still written as a Branch Technical Position (BTP), please note that staff does not plan to publish the final report as a BTP, instead it will be published as a staff report (NUREG). Please also note that the document is marked:

**PREDECISIONAL DRAFT INFORMATION
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Due to its predecisional nature, this report is exempt from public disclosure under NRC rules. We suggest that you limit distribution to your staff and not release the document publicly. If this document is released, please inform **me or the individual named below within 24 hours**.

Background

Staff is currently finalizing the staff report which was made available for public comment in May, 1997. This report provides detailed information on regulatory issues associated with performance assessment submitted as part of license applications to demonstrate compliance with 10 CFR 61.41. Specifically, this information includes the positions on: (a) an acceptable approach for systematically integrating site characterization, facility design, and performance modeling into a single process; (b) regulatory issues regarding interpreting and implementing Part 61 performance objectives and technical requirements integral to a performance assessment; and (c) implementation of NRC's performance assessment methodology. The draft final staff report also includes responses to comments received in response to the Federal Register Notice dated May 29, 1997 (62 FR 29164-29165) announcing the availability of the draft BTP.

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STP-00-059

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