



**Department of Energy**

Washington, DC 20585

DEC 19 1991

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

Enclosed is the fourth progress report entitled, "Site Characterization Progress Report: Yucca Mountain, Nevada, Number 4," for October 1, 1990-March 31, 1991 (Enclosure 1). The report is transmitted for your information to show the progress of site characterization activities at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The report covers a number of initiatives to improve the effectiveness of the site characterization program, and covers continued efforts related to the preparatory activities, study plans, and performance assessment.

In accordance with the understanding between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as conveyed via DOE letter (Shelor to Linehan) dated June 17, 1991, the DOE is to provide copies of documents cited in the progress reports "that are not available through the open literature, published symposia proceedings, or the standard channels for distribution of government reports." Items to be furnished would be, for example, reports published by the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO), uncontrolled copies of YMPO controlled documents, or letters that might be referenced in the progress reports.

Therefore, enclosed with this letter is one set of references (Enclosures 2-11) that are reports produced by YMPO and a letter (Enclosure 12) cited in the progress report No. 4. The references are identified as follows:

2. YMP/90-97, Responses to California Energy Commission Comments on the Site Characterization Plan (SCP).
3. YMP/90-103, Responses to Lincoln County Board of Commissioners' Comments on the SCP.
4. YMP/90-101, Responses to Environmental Protection Agency Comments on the SCP.

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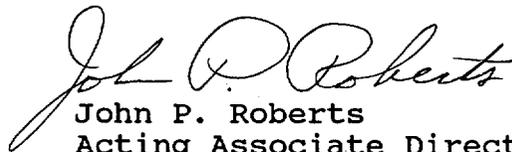
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5. YMP/90-99, Responses to Edison Electric Institute Comments on the SCP.
6. YMP/90-98, Responses to U.S. Department of the Interior Comments on the SCP.
7. YMP/90-109, Responses to State of Nevada Letter on the SCP/Exploratory Shaft Facility.
8. YMP/90-38, Status of Data, Major Results, and Plans for Geophysical Activities, Yucca Mountain Project.
9. YMP/90-47, Evaluation of Alternative Licensing Strategies for the Development of a High-Level Nuclear Waste Repository.
10. YMP/91-13, Plan for the Phased Approach to the ESF Design Development and Implementation.
11. YMP/91-1, YMP Activity Plan for Development and Implementation of a Method for Early Evaluation of Site Suitability.
12. Dudley, et al., U.S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 91-58.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please contact Linda Desell of my office at (202) 586-1462.

Sincerely,



John P. Roberts  
Acting Associate Director for  
Systems and Compliance  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management

12 Enclosures: as stated

*on shelf*

\*cc w/o Enclosures:

C. Gertz, YMPO

\*R. Loux, State of Nevada (w/1 set of enclosures 2-12)

K. Whipple, Lincoln County, NV

M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV

J. Bingham, Clark County, NV

D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV

S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV

B. Raper, Nye County, NV

P. Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, NV

R. Campbell, Inyo County, CA

R. Michener, Inyo County, CA

G. Derby, Lander County, NV

P. Goicoechea, Eureka, NV

C. Schank, Churchill County, NV

C. Jackson, Mineral County, NV

F. Sperry, White Pine County, NV

L. Vaughan, Esmeralda County, NV

\*N. K. Stablein, NRC (w/1 set of Enclosures 2-12)