MEETING COVER LETTER

-1- 349 1988

Mr. Ralph Stein, Associate Director for Systems Integration & Regulations Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management U. S. Department of Energy RW 30 Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Stein:

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1989 QUALITY ASSURANCE MEETING

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the minutes of the September 7, 1989 meeting of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the State of Nevada on quality assurance (QA). The minutes were prepared by members of the NRC staff and representatives from the DOE and do not include any written statements from the State of Nevada.

Generally, this meeting was an improvement over recent QA meetings because the topics discussed at the meeting were covered in more detail. This allowed the participants to better understand the issues associated with a particular topic. However, it is still necessary for more substantive issues to be placed on the agenda of future meetings. We should be able to use this forum for issue resolution, not merely for status reports.

During this meeting the subject of hold points for Exploratory Shaft Facility (ESF) Title II design activities was discussed as part of DOE's presentation on the status of ESF Title II QA controls. At the July 6 and 7, 1989 ESF Title II design control meeting, the staff requested and DOE agreed to provide the hold points by September 1, 1989. The staff realizes that DOE is currently preparing its response. However, at the QA meeting, DOE indicated that it was proceeding with the ESF Title II design process and would be reaching hold points to verify the implementation of Q-List procedures into design documents. The staff responded with a reiteration of its need to review the design process as the design progresses rather than only reviewing the final design. Therefore, DOE needs to provide the staff with the design process so that mutually agreeable review points can be established.

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WM-11 102.7 NH16 If you have any questions, please contact Mark Delligatti of my staff on (301) 492-0430.

> Sincerely. John J. Linehan, Director Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate Division of High-Level Waste Management

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: C. Gertz, DOE R. Loux, State of Nevada

D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV

M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV

S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV

K. Turner, GAO

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