

November 3, 2000

Dr. Kevin D. Crowley, Director
Board on Radioactive Waste Management
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20418

SUBJECT: BOARD ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT'S STUDY ON LOW-
ACTIVITY RADIOACTIVE WASTE

Dear Dr. Crowley:

I am responding to your October 13, 2000, letter to Mr. William F. Kane of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), acknowledging our commitment to participate in and to consider providing financial support for your proposed study, "Improving Practices for Regulating and Managing Low-Activity Radioactive Waste." You also provided a revised study scope with your letter. We note that the Board on Radioactive Waste Management has expanded the study to include not just low-level radioactive waste, but also other types of low-activity waste, such as TENORM and mill tailings. We believe that the expanded scope from the earlier version is a worthwhile change. It should help decisionmakers to develop policies that maintain or improve safety and protection of the environment, and provide for more effective and efficient management and disposal options.

As we stated in our June 15, 2000, letter, we would be pleased to participate in the study through, for example, briefings of the study group. We will also provide \$100,000 in funding in FY 2001. Our staff is taking the necessary steps to disperse these funds to the National Research Council. The NRC contact for this activity is James Kennedy who can be reached at (301)-415-6668.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John T. Greeves, Director
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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