

September 28, 2001

Dr. Stephan Brocoum, Assistant Manager
Office of Licensing and Regulatory Compliance
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR IN-DRIFT MATERIAL SAMPLES

Dear Dr. Brocoum:

In accordance with the agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding pre-licensing interactions dated November 16, 1998, the NRC formally requests samples of in-drift materials to investigate the chemistry of condensate water dripping into drifts. Specifically, the NRC requests the following items:

- 1) steel sets - two 1 inch squares and two 2 inch squares of steel support material
- 2) grout - 1 kg of powdered grout mix
- 3) rock bolt - one whole rock bolt
- 4) wire mesh - 5 square feet of wire mesh

In addition, the NRC plans to perform trace element analyses on the condensate water that has reacted with the requested materials, therefore, the NRC requests DOE provide the compositional analyses of the requested materials. Please send the materials to:

Dr. Lauren Browning
Southwest Research Institute/Div. 20
Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis
6220 Culebra Road, Building 189
San Antonio, TX 78238-5166

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the technical lead for the Thermal Effects on Flow Key Technical

S. Brocoum

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Issue, Mr. Jeffrey Pohle or the Senior Project Manager for issue resolution, Mr. James Andersen. Mr. Pohle can be reached at (301) 415-6703 and Mr. Andersen at (301) 415-5717.

Sincerely,

/RA/ nks for cwr

C. William Reamer, Chief
High-Level Waste Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: See attached distribution list

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Letter to S. Brocoum from C.W. Reamer dated: September 28, 2001

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