October 18, 2001

Dr. Asadul H. Chowdhury, Manager Mining, Geotechnical, and Facility Engineering Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses 6220 Culebra Road, Bldg. 189 San Antonio, Texas 78238-5166

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF INTERMEDIATE MILESTONE NO. 01402.661.130:

EVALUATE DOE APPROACH TO THERMAL-HYDROLOGICAL TESTING,

MODELING, DATA, AND SENSITIVITY ANALYSES

Dear Dr. Chowdhury:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has completed its review of the subject document that you sent by cover letter, dated September 27, 2001. This product is programmatically and technically acceptable.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6703.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeffrey A. Pohle, Program Element Manager High-Level Waste Branch Division of Waste Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

cc: J. Linehan

B. Meehan

B. Sagar, CNWRA

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