

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Aug 09, 2002 08:35

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-02-0531

LOGGING DATE: 08/09/2002

ACTION OFFICE: EDO

To: Virgilio, NMSS

AUTHOR: Ron Bourgoïn

AFFILIATION: NC

ADDRESSEE: Richard Meserve

SUBJECT: Yucca Mountain

cys: EDO
DEDMRS
DEDR
DEDM
AO
ACNW

ACTION: Appropriate

DISTRIBUTION: Chairman

LETTER DATE: 08/01/2002

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: Adams

DATE DUE:

DATE SIGNED:

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

August 1, 2002

**Dr. Richard A. Meserve, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Location: OWFN
Mailstop: 16C1
Washington, D.C. 20555**

Re: Yucca Mountain

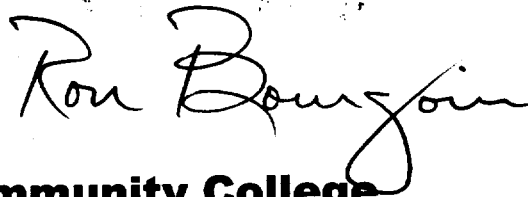
**Dear Dr. Meserve,
I have sent the following to both Drs. Michael
Corradini (NWTRB) and George Hornberger
ACNW). I send it to you as a courtesy.**

**I am concerned that gamma ray radiolysis on
waste package surfaces will cause the water
film on said surfaces to become acidified by
fixation of nitrogen into nitric acid creating a low
pH condition (2.0 or less) and subsequent
localized corrosion of waste packages.**

**I asked how long will a waste package keep its
contents sealed in such a low pH environment.**

**Sincerely,
Ron Bourgoin**

**Edgecombe Community College
225 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N.C. 27801**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ron Bourgoin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "R" and "B".