

September 6, 2002

Susan Lynch
State of Nevada
Office of the Governor
Agency for Nuclear Projects
Nuclear Waste Project Office
1802 N. Carson Street
Suite 252
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Lynch,

In recent public forums Catholic University has presented experimental results on issues that address potential corrosion processes that may affect any potential waste packages stored under conditions similar to those under investigation at Yucca Mountain. As you are aware, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) also evaluates similar corrosion processes as those under investigation at Catholic University. Both the results and the test facility that Catholic University is working on are of interest to the NRC.

NRC has approached Catholic University to allow us to visit their facility and discuss their results. Catholic University said that NRC would have to work with the State of Nevada (who contracts the work) to be granted permission to visit. We are therefore requesting the State of Nevada to allow several members of our staff (including contractors) to visit Catholic University by mid November 2002. The staff would be interested in viewing the test facility, the current experimentation, and discussing the methods and results that they are evaluating.

We would appreciate a response on your decision in this matter by the end of October.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Janet R. Schlueter, Chief
High-Level Waste Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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