



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

JAN 25 1991

Mr. John Linehan, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level
Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

Enclosed is a copy of the Record of Memorandum that documents the results of the Calico Hills Risk Benefit Analysis. This document is provided for your information in advance of the upcoming Nuclear Regulatory Commission/Department of Energy meeting, scheduled for January 29-31, 1991. The analysis was performed to provide the Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management with information necessary for any reconsideration of a DOE decision concerning penetration of the Calico Hills Unit. The formal objection by the NRC to the Site Characterization Plan/ Consultation Draft was used as guidance in preparing this material. That objection maintained that the plans for excavation and testing in the Calico Hills Unit were not based on adequate analysis of the risks and benefits of alternative methods for obtaining the needed information.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosure, please contact Linda Desell of my staff at (202) 586-1462.

Sincerely,

Dwight Shelor
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure:

- 1) Calico Hills Risk/Benefit Analysis Record of Memorandum

on on shelf

9101290351 910125
FDR WASTE
WM-11
FDR

102.8
WM-11
NH03

980117

cc:

R. Loux, State of Nevada
C. Gertz, DOE/YMPO/NV
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV