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QA: N/A

**MAR 31 2003**

OVERNIGHT MAIL

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KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE (KTI) IGNEOUS ACTIVITY (IA) AGREEMENT ITEM 2.03

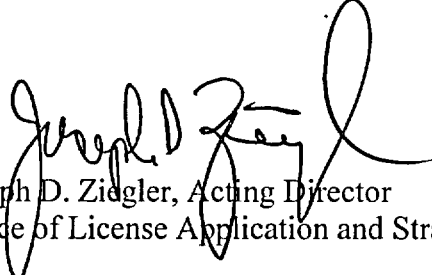
- References: 1. Ltr, Schlueter to Ziegler, dtd 11/12/02  
2. Ltr, Ziegler to Schlueter, dtd 7/30/02

In the above letter (Reference 1), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) documented the results of the review of a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) letter report (Reference 2) addressing Agreement Item IA 2.03 about the range of tephra volumes. The NRC concluded that the information DOE provided was not sufficient to adequately document that the range of tephra volumes was appropriate for representing Yucca Mountain region volcanic eruptions. However, Reference 1 notes that the NRC expects the update to the Analysis Model Report (AMR), *Characterize Eruptive Processes at Yucca Mountain, Nevada (ANL-MGR-GS-000002)*, will provide sufficient information to address the elements of the information needed, described on pages 2 and 3 of the enclosure to the NRC letter.

Specifically, the update to the AMR will include a technical basis for the range of tephra volumes based on studies at the Lathrop Wells cone and on information from other analog studies. This range of tephra volumes will be used for the Total System Performance Assessment-License Application and it is expected to change from those documented in the AMR supporting the Total System Performance Assessment-Site Recommendation based on the information from the analog studies. In addition, the bases for the wind conditions and related parameters utilized in the sensitivity of tephra volume calculations will be documented in the report entitled *Atmosphere Dispersal and Deposition of Tephra from a Potential Volcanic Eruption at Yucca Mountain, Nevada (MDL-MGR-GS-000002)*. These documents are expected to be available in July 2003.

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Please direct any questions concerning this letter to Timothy C. Gunter at (702) 794-1343 or Eric T. Smistad at (702) 794-5073.

  
Joseph D. Ziegler, Acting Director  
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