

March 14, 1996

Dr. Stephen J. Broc, Assistant Manager  
for Suitability and Licensing  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Project Office  
P. O. Box 98606  
101 Convention Center Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

0480

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OPEN ITEMS  
RELATED TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STUDY PLAN 8.3.1.8.1.2

References: (1) Letter, Holonich to Milner, 09/14/94  
(2) Letter, Brocoum to Holonich, 08/11/95

Dear Dr. Brocoum:

In its letter of August 11, 1995, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission comments on Study Plan 8.3.1.8.1.2. In these responses DOE committed to revising many sections of the Study Plan in a manner which the staff considers would satisfactorily resolve NRC concerns related to Comments 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and Question 1. In addition, DOE provided the necessary clarification to resolve NRC Question 2. Since issuance of the DOE letter, there have been many changes in the focus of the DOE program, and it is not clear to the staff when DOE will be able to revise the subject Study Plan. However, the NRC considers the commitments provided in the letter will be reflected in future revisions of the Study Plan as well as any activities being undertaken by DOE related to this Study Plan. If this is not the case, then DOE should inform us immediately concerning any changes to this program area.

If there are any questions concerning this letter, please contact John S. Trapp of my staff at (301) 415-8063.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

for Michael J. Bell, Chief  
Engineering and Geosciences Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

cc: See attached list

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**LIST FOR LETTER TO S. BROCOUM DATED March 14, 1996**

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Michael J. Bell, Chief  
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