March 14, 1996

Dr. Stephen J. Broci 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

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

0480

(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

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

See attached list

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

cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada

B. Price, Nevada Legislative Committee

J. Meder, Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau

W. Barnes, YMPO

C. Einberg, DOE/Washington, DC

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M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV

D. Weigel, GAO

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J. Hoffman, Esmeralda County, NV C. Schank, Churchill County, NV

L. Bradshaw, Nye County, NV

W. Barnard, NWTRB

R. Holden, NCAI

A. Melendez, NIEC

R. Arnold, Pahrump, NV

M. Stellavato, Nye County, NV

R. Milner, DOE\Washington, DC

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Sincerely,

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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