October 19, 1995

Mr. Ronald A. Milner, Director for Program Management and Integration Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management U.S. Department of Energy, RW 30 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20585

SUBJECT: RECEIPT OF SITE CHARACTERIZATION PROGRESS REPORT

Dear Mr. Milner:

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The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received the twelfth rep in the series titled: <u>Site Characterization Progress Report:</u> Yucca Mountai, <u>Nevada</u> (SCP PR 12), dated August 1995. This report covers the period of October 1, 1994, through March 31, 1995. The NRC staff intends to review SCP PR 12 and provide comments to the U.S. Department of Energy. However, due to resource limitations and the staff's ongoing effort to implement its Key Technical Issue approach, this review will not be completed until March 1996. The NRC staff will provide early notification of any major concerns that may arise during the interim.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Mark Delligatti at 301-415-6620.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief High-Level Waste and Uranium **Recovery Projects Branch** Division of Waste Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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cc: See next page

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