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Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Associate Director for Systems and Compliance Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management U. S. Department of Energy, RW 30 Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS) QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) PROGRAM

This letter responds to your letter of June 3, 1991, stating that the exception to the USGS QA program regarding the Privacy Act issue (auditor access to personnel training and qualification records) has been satisfactorily resolved and requesting that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff accept the USGS QA program without exception. The NRC staff previously accepted the USGS QA program, conditional upon satisfactory resolution of this exception, in my letter to you dated October 24, 1990.

The NRC staff has reviewed the material concerning the Privacy Act issue in the attachment to your June 3, 1991 letter; based on its evaluation of this material and NRC staff observations of QA audits and surveillances of the USGS, the NRC staff agrees that the Privacy Act issue has been satisfactorily resolved. The NRC staff has determined that the USGS QA program is acceptable for implementation of site characterization activities and other quality-related activities for the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project, with no exceptions.

Sincerely.

John J./Linehan, Acting Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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Acceptance of U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quality Assurance Subject:

(QA) Program

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