



**Department of Energy**  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 98608  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

JUN 15 1995

J. Nick Stellavato  
On-Site Geotechnical Representative  
Nye County Nuclear Waste  
Repository Project Office  
P.O. Box 2389  
Pahrump, NV 89041

**NYE COUNTY'S RECOMMENDATION FOR CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA IN THE  
EXPLORATORY STUDIES FACILITY AS IT RELATES TO DISTURBED ZONE  
TESTING (SCPB: N/A) (NN1-1995-0482)**

Reference: Ltr, Stellavato to Patterson, dtd 4/20/95

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the above referenced subject. Presently the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been measuring barometric pressure and temperature in Alcove 1 during the short-term radial borehole air-K and shut in pressure tests. The industrial hygiene group also collects some air quality data periodically but not to the extent expressed in your letter.

Russell L. Patterson, of my staff, has discussed the placement of instrumentation to measure underground climatological conditions (temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, flow rate, and direction of the ventilation) near the tunnel boring machine with the USGS management. The pros and cons of installing and monitoring this equipment will be further discussed with the USGS Principal Investigators who would be involved with gathering and potentially using this data in an informal meeting planned for June 19, 1995, in Denver, Colorado. A formal U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) decision/position on this subject will be developed prior to the July 10, 1995, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission/DOE Technical Exchange on the pneumatic pathways program.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Russell L. Patterson at (702) 794-7691.

Susan B. Jones  
Assistant Manager for  
Scientific Programs

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JUN 15 1995

cc:

~~W. R. Belke, NRC, Washington, DC~~  
W. D. Barnard, NWTRB, Arlington, VA  
Carl A. Johnson, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV  
L. W. Bradshaw, Nye County, Tonopah, NV  
Malachy R. Murphy, Nye County, Tonopah, NV  
Philip Niedzielski-Eichner, Nye County, Chantilly, VA  
V. E. Poe, Mineral County, Hawthorne, NV  
J. D. Hoffman, Esmeralda County, Goldfield, NV  
Stanley Sims, Nye County, Tonopah, NV  
Abigail Johnson, Eureka County, Eureka, NV  
Cyril Schank, Churchill County, Fallon, NV  
Bjorn Selinder, Churchill County, Fallon, NV  
B. R. Mettam, Inyo County, Independence, CA  
Tammy Manzini, Lander County, Battle Mountain, NV  
Jason Pitts, Lincoln County, Pioche, NV  
Florindo Mariani, White Pine County, Ely, NV  
D. A. Bechtel, Clark County, Las Vegas, NV