



Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
Project Office
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WBS 1.2.9
QA: N/A

JAN 16 1991

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SITE EVALUATION AND DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS (SEDE) WORKING GROUP ON MEASUREMENT
AND PHYSICAL UNDERSTANDING OF GROUNDWATER FLOW THROUGH ARGILLACEOUS MEDIA

This letter is in response to your letter of November 21, 1990, which requested that National Delegates to the SEDE Coordinating Group nominate representatives to attend the first meeting of the above-named Working Group which has been proposed for Baden, Switzerland, in February or March 1991.

As you are aware, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Waste Isolation Pilot Project have previously determined that they are not interested in attending meetings of this Working Group. The Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management has evaluated the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) participation in the Working Group and is interested in monitoring its activities and obtaining copies of all documents (meeting summaries, position papers, technical reports, etc.) which are developed relative to its activities. However, DOE does not intend to actively participate or send observers to the first meeting of the Working Group. DOE will reevaluate its participation in the Working Group in the future and therefore requests that both Thomas Isaacs, Director of the Office of External Relations and Policy at DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and myself be kept cognizant of Working Group activities. If you require any further clarification of this position, please contact me at (702) 794-7946, and I shall be happy to discuss it with you.

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U.S.A. Delegate
SEDE Coordinating Group, OECD/NEA
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
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YMP:RAL-1689

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