



Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
Project Office
P. O. Box 98608
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

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Distribution

FORWARDING OF MAJORITY AND MINORITY EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL REPORTS REGARDING JERRY S. SZYMANSKI'S REPORT "CONCEPTUAL CONSIDERATIONS OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN GROUNDWATER SYSTEM WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE ADEQUACY OF THIS SYSTEM TO ACCOMMODATE A HIGH-LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY"

Enclosed are reports prepared by an external review panel which was tasked by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) with evaluating the concepts, data, and interpretations presented by Jerry Szymanski in his report of July 26, 1989. The external review panel produced two reports reflecting majority and minority viewpoints. These reports have not yet been officially reviewed by DOE.

A 17-member panel of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) is also focusing on the topic of coupled processes as they might affect a high-level nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The NAS report is expected to be released early next year.

The DOE will carefully consider the external review panel reports and the NAS report prior to implementing any necessary modifications to the site characterization program.

Copies of the independent peer review reports, and other supporting information, are available upon request from the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office. For more information contact William Sublette at (702) 794-7782 or FTS 544-7782.

Carl P. Gertz
Project Manager

YMP:JRD-1036

- Enclosures:
1. External Review Panel
Majority Report
 2. Minority Report of the
Special DOE Review Panel

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09/03/1991

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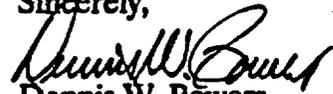
Dear Mr. Gertz:

I am forwarding through Bill Sublette the final report of the majority group for the external review panel.

The minority report is not complete yet; from talking with Charles Archambeau, it would appear their report will be completed soon (perhaps a week or two). Though we realize our majority report will be a public report as soon as received, we suggest that it not be given wide distribution until the minority report is also available.

I will send a further letter concerning the panel activities when the minority report is available.

Sincerely,


Dennis W. Powers
Chairman
External Review Panel

copy to: panel members