

SEP 13 1993

MEMORANDUM TO: Joseph Holonich, Director
 Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance
 Project Directorate, HLWM

FROM: Margaret Federline, Branch Chief
 Hydrology and Systems Performance Branch, HLWM

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF STUDY PLAN 8.3.1.2.2.9 SITE
 UNSATURATED-ZONE MODELING AND SYNTHESIS,
 REVISION 0

We have completed our review of Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.9, Revision 0, Site Unsaturated-Zone Modeling and Synthesis. The DOE did not propose to close any NRC open items in this Study Plan. Furthermore, this review did not identify any objections with respect to the activities submitted. However, because of the importance of this study plan to characterization of Yucca Mountain hydrology, we plan to conduct a detailed review. It is anticipated that our review will focus on linkages between the modeling and data from research and site characterization activities. In addition, we plan to look closely at proposed model validation approaches.

Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.8, "Fluid Flow in Unsaturated Fractured Rock" is closely linked to this study plan. A Phase I review of Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.8 (transmitted to DOE on 01/28/93) did not identify any objection level concerns. However, in that review it was stated that the decision to conduct a detailed review would be made after the NRC had received Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.9. Therefore, because these two study plans are closely linked, we have decided to conduct a detailed review of Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.8 at the same time that we conduct a detailed review of Study Plan 8.3.1.2.2.9.

This review was completed by William Ford.

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 Margaret Federline, Branch Chief
 Hydrology and Systems Performance Branch, HLWM

cc: C. Abrams
 D. Brooks
 W. Ford

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