

May 11, 1998

M. Yannick Lozac'h  
Office of the Safety Evaluation of  
the Geological Waste Disposal  
CEA/IPSN/DES  
BP no6  
92265 Fontenay aux Rosés Cedex  
FRANCE

**SUBJECT: BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE JULY 8, 1998, MEETING BETWEEN  
THE STANDING GROUP OF EXPERTS AND THE U.S. NUCLEAR  
REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

Dear M. Lozac'h:

I have assembled a number of documents you may find useful to review prior to our meeting later this summer. Included in this package are the following documents:

1. A draft agenda for our meeting on July 8, 1998;
2. NRC High-Level Radioactive Waste Program Annual Progress Report: Fiscal Year 1996;
3. SECY-97-300, Proposed Strategy for Development of Regulations Governing Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Proposed Repository At Yucca Mountain, Nevada;
4. Copies of NRC staff Issue Resolution Status Reports currently available, that include:

Igneous Activity  
Structural Deformation & Seismicity  
Evolution of Near-Field Environment  
Container Life and Source Term  
Thermal Effects on Flow  
Repository Design & Thermal Mechanical Effects  
Unsaturated and Saturated Flow Under Isothermal Conditions, and

5. the U.S. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, 1998 Strategic Plan.

I believe you will find this material of interest.

Sincerely,

Margaret V. Federline, Deputy Director  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

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Enclosures: As stated

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