



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

MAR 24 1993

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing & Quality Assurance
Project Directorate
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office's intention to perform an independent technical design review of the Exploratory Studies Facility Title II Design Package 1B: North Portal Surface Facilities. This review is being done at the 50 percent complete stage and will be followed by an additional review at the 90 percent complete stage.

This 50 percent design review is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on April 12, 1993, in Room 10 of the Science Applications International Corporation Training Center at 101 Convention Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada. The review will conclude by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 16, 1993. This design review is limited to the drawings, design studies, and specifications related to Design Package 1B: North Portal Surface Facilities. The basis of the review is the regulatory, geologic, and engineering/design considerations appropriate to the scope of the design package.

We would welcome the NRC's observation of this upcoming review. For planning purposes, it would be helpful if you could inform Sheila Long at (202) 586-1447, if staff members plan to attend.

John P. Roberts
Director, Regulatory Compliance
Division
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Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

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