

JUL 21 1989

MEMO FOR BROWNING

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert E. Browning, Director
 Division of High-Level Waste Management

FROM: Donald L. Chery, Jr., Section Leader
 Hydrologic Transport Section
 Geosciences & Systems Performance Branch, HLWM

SUBJECT: PRE-PUBLICATION COPY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
 REPORT "GROUND WATER MODELS: SCIENTIFIC AND REGULATORY
 APPLICATIONS"

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission was one of the five sponsors (by a grant from the Office of Research) of a study by the Water Science and Technology Board that investigated two questions: "To what extent can the current generation of ground water models accurately predict complex hydrogeologic and chemical phenomena?" and "Given the accuracy of these models, is it reasonable to assign liability for specific ground water contamination incidents to individual parties or make regulatory decisions based on long-term prediction?" The committee of experts assembled by Water Science and Technology Board have completed their evaluation and the pre-publication copy of their report has been received by the NRC. A copy of that report, "Ground Water Model: Scientific and Regulatory Applications" is attached for your information and use by your staff.

Donald L. Chery, Jr., Section Leader
 NRC Liaison Representative to the
 Water Science and Technology Board

Attachment:
 As stated

cc: S. Parker, WSTB
 W. Melgin, WSTB
 J. Randall, RES
 M. Weber, LLTB
 J. Starmer, LLTB
 M. Fliegel, LLOB

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