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**AGENCY FOR NUCLEAR PROJECTS
NUCLEAR WASTE PROJECT OFFICE**

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August 17, 1993

Mr. Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Project Office
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 98608
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8608

Dear Mr. Gertz:

My letter of July 6, 1993, called attention to the difficulties my Office is experiencing with respect to obtaining timely information on environmental activities within the Yucca Mountain site characterization project. The letter suggested how the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Administrative Procedure (AP) 8.1, Land Access and Environmental Compliance, could accommodate our needs if the AP-8.1 files were to be placed in the controlled document system for the Yucca Mountain Project.

In rejecting my suggestion, your reply of August 9, 1993, stated that the AP-8.1 process was not intended for the purpose of tracking site characterization disturbances at Yucca Mountain. In view of the mandate set forth within the Nuclear Waste Policy Act for the State of Nevada to exercise oversight of the Yucca Mountain Project, we view the timely receipt of complete AP-8.1 files as an avenue for meeting appropriate aspects of our responsibilities. If DOE does not agree with and will not facilitate our use of the files for informational purposes, I would appreciate learning of the alternative means available to us for obtaining current environmental information relative to site characterization activities at Yucca Mountain. The types of environmental information we seek includes the following:

- Identification of the activity to be conducted and the estimated schedule;
- Location and size of the area within the Yucca Mountain site that is to be disturbed;

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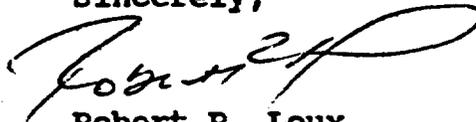
- The nature of the predisturbed environment; and
- Description of measures to be taken to protect, preserve, and return the environment to a condition similar to the predisturbance state.

The offer, in your August 9 letter, to provide us with copies of the AP-8.1 approval letters will be helpful in signifying to us that the background information we seek exists. It remains now to find a means by which we can obtain the information without the delays and inefficiencies recounted in my July 6 letter.

On a related matter, your response to my letter stated that the AP-8.1 files are submitted to a records information system. We are unaware of the existence of such a system within the Yucca Mountain Project and would appreciate learning of its nature and how we can gain access to the information within the system.

If there are questions about the above matters please contact C. R. Malone of my staff.

Sincerely,



Robert R. Loux
Executive Director

RRL:CRL:jem

✓ cc: B.J. Youngblood,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

J.E. Cantlon,
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board