



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

MAR 05 1990

Mr. John Linehan, Director
Repository Licensing and 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. Linehan:

As you are aware, following March 9, 1990, Gordon Appel will be leaving the Department of Energy (DOE) to assume a position with the State of Illinois. Since the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) is awaiting the confirmation of a new Director and anticipates a subsequent re-organization, a new Licensing Branch Chief will not be chosen at this time.

During the period pending re-organization, I will be assuming the role of Acting Licensing Branch Chief and Linda Desell will be assuming the role of acting as my deputy for that position. Ms. Desell is known to a number of your staff from her work as a member of the Licensing Branch staff.

Until such time as a new Licensing Branch Chief is chosen, all correspondence should continue to be addressed to me. Telephone contact usually directed to the Licensing Branch Chief should be directed to Ms. Desell. Correspondence received from DOE and signed by Ms. Desell should be considered official DOE correspondence.

If you have any questions regarding these arrangements, please contact either Linda Desell at 586-1462 or myself at 586-6046.

Sincerely,

Ralph Stein

Ralph Stein, Associate Director
Office of Systems Integration
and Regulations
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

cc: Director, OCRWM

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