

Churchill County
 Clark County
 Esmeralda County
 Eureka County
 Inyo County
 Lander County
 Lincoln County
 Mineral County
 Nye County
 White Pine County

Affected Units of Local Government Yucca Mountain, Nevada

August 7, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 One White Flint North
 11555 Rockville Pike
 Rockville, Maryland 20852

Attn: Mr. John Hoyle, Secretary

Subject: **PROPOSED MEETINGS WITH THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Dear Mr. Hoyle:

This letter is in reference to our recent conversation regarding a possible future briefing by the Affected Units of Local Government (AULG) monitoring the Yucca Mountain Program (the Program) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

A major objective of the briefing would be to provide the Commission with an AULG perspective on key decision documents such as the *Viability Assessment* and the *Yucca Mountain Environmental Impact Statement*. The AULG would also be prepared, if requested, to provide information to the Commission on program accomplishments, cooperative efforts and on other issues.

To make the briefing to the Commission more effective we would recommend scheduling a preliminary meeting (perhaps by videoconference) between the NRC staff and AULG representatives in September or October of this year. A preliminary meeting could be beneficial for several reasons:

1) It would provide an opportunity for the AULG staff, particularly those new to the Program, to become familiar with the roles and responsibilities of the NRC in various key areas of the Yucca Mountain Program. Of particular interest to the AULG would be an understanding of the NRC roles (if any) and responsibilities in the following activities:

- Licensing for the repository and an interim storage facility.
- Transportation issues, including the licensing of canisters.
- The review of the *Viability Assessment*, *Yucca Mountain Environmental Impact Statement* and the future *License Application*.
- Public involvement related to pre-licensing and licensing, and, more importantly, how the NRC will consider and utilize public input to the Yucca Mountain EIS?
- An articulation of the process to be employed in reviewing the VA, EIS and DOE license application.
- The Licensing Support Network [LSN] (former Licensing Support System), particularly regarding the upcoming Final Rule on the LSN.
- Utilization of advisory committees (e.g., Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste).

2) It would enable the AULG and NRC staff to initiate a dialogue to share information and perspectives on this complex program.

3) An interactive and comprehensive preliminary meeting would greatly assist in formulating a productive agenda for a future Commission briefing (perhaps early in 1999).

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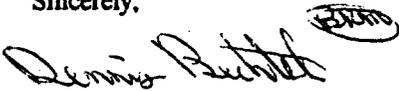
The affected local governments, as you are aware, have had several opportunities in the past to brief the Commission on important transportation and site characterization issues (i.e., pneumatic flow, geohydrology and other technical issues). We feel these meetings were mutually beneficial. On the one hand, the NRC received a better understanding of the scope of affected government interests and concerns. On the other, the questions and insight from the NRC broadened the perspectives of AULG representatives.

It is the AULGs belief that a future meeting would mark the continuation of a productive dialogue between the Commission and the representatives of local governments that will be impacted by the Yucca Mountain Program.

Thank you again for your time and consideration. I would be pleased to discuss meeting arrangements at your earliest convenience. The list of topics noted above should assist the NRC in determining appropriate staff to include at a preliminary meeting.

If you have questions or require any further information please contact me at (702) 455-5175.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dennis A. Bechtel in cursive, with a circled stamp or mark to the right.

Dennis A. Bechtel
AULG Representative
Clark County, Nevada

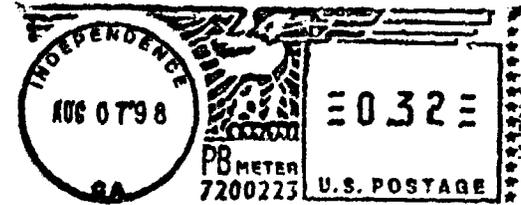
cc: Affected Units of Local Government Representatives



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**Affected Units of Local Government
 Yucca Mountain, Nevada**

Reply to Inyo County Planning Department
 P. O. Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526



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 11555 Rockville Pike
 Rockville, Maryland 20852**

Attn: Mr. John Hoyle, Secretary

20852-2732



CRC-98-0747

Dennis Bechtel