



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

SEP 28 1992

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, 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, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Holonich:

At the July 27-31, 1992, 90 Percent Design Review of the Exploratory Studies Facility (ESF) Title II, Package 1A, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) inform the NRC staff as to significant changes in the ESF design. The DOE intends to use the Site Characterization Progress Report as the means to notify NRC of changes in the ESF design. At the end of each reporting period, DOE staff involved in compiling this document determines if any revisions have been made to study plans and if any Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office (YMPO) Change Control Board (CCB) actions have changed the Site Characterization Program Baseline (SCPB) document. YMPO will expand this inquiry to include any changes made to the ESF Design Summary Report and the ESF Design Requirements document. As with the SCPB, these two design documents are baselined and require action by the CCB to change them. They also contain the most significant aspects of the configuration for the ESF. Changes to these documents would be significant enough to apprise the NRC on a routine basis.

If you have any questions, please call Corinne Macaluso of my staff at (202) 586-2837.

Sincerely,

John P. Roberts
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

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