



Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization
Project Office
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WBS 1.2.5.2.2
QA: N/A

OCT 12 1992

Philip S. Justus
Site Representative
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
301 E. Stewart Avenue, Room 203
Las Vegas, NV 89101

BACKFILL NOTIFICATION FOR SITE CHARACTERIZATION MIDWAY VALLEY TRENCHES

On September 17-18, 1992, the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office coordinated a site visit requested by your office. We believe that it was a productive visit which highlighted the work of principal investigators in the process of mapping various trenches excavated across faults that were excavated for Studies 8.3.1.17.4.2 (Location and Recency of Faulting Near Prospective Surface Facilities) and 8.3.1.17.4.6 (Quaternary Faulting in the Site Area).

During the visit, several U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff from Washington, D.C., were temporarily reassigned to the on-site representative's office. Some of the questions from NRC staff suggested that a notification of impending backfill of Trench 5 and some of the smaller trenches associated with it would be appreciated. Trench 5 and the subsidiary trenches on the east flank of Exile Hill will be backfilled during the period November 18-25, 1992.

We also wish to notify your office that a relatively small trench is to be excavated north of Trench 5 during the week of October 5. This trench is to allow further examination of the brecciated bedrock step exposed at the far western end of Trench 5. It will also be backfilled during the same period.

If you have any questions, please contact J. Timothy Sullivan at 794-7915.

There has been a delay in opening this trench as of w/ T. Sullivan TWB 10/15/92

J. Maxwell Flanagan
Carl P. Geertz
Project Manager

RSB:TWB-293

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Philip S. Justus

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OCT 12 1992

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