



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

DEC 4 1992

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Director
Repository Licensing & 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. Holonich:

As a result of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project (YMP) Audit YMP-92-13 of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), April 1-10, 1992, the audit team determined that implementation of Quality Program Element 20.0, "Scientific Investigation Control," was unsatisfactory. Prior to the audit, these adverse conditions had been identified and documented by the USGS Quality Assurance (QA) organization on USGS Corrective Action Request (CAR) YM-92-04.

As the condition had already been documented, the Yucca Mountain Quality Assurance Division (YMQAD) committed to the performance of a surveillance upon closure of USGS CAR YM-92-04 to verify the adequacy and effectiveness of USGS's investigation and corrective actions. Kenneth R. Hooks of your staff requested that he be notified when this surveillance was scheduled.

Recently, representatives of the USGS QA organization have indicated that an internal surveillance was performed November 23-25, 1992, to verify completion of corrective action on the CAR. Within 30 days of completion of this surveillance, USGS QA is required to issue a surveillance report to document the results of verification activities and to indicate the status of CAR closure. If CAR YM-92-04 is closed as a result of this surveillance, a team of personnel from YMQAD will perform an Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), Office of Quality Assurance (OQA), surveillance to review the CAR verification and closure. It is anticipated that this OCRWM OQA

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surveillance will be performed in mid-January, 1993.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Sharon Skuchko of my office at 202-586-4590.

Sincerely,



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

CC:

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