



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

MAR 6 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:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Project Office's intention to perform an independent technical design review of the first design package for the Exploratory Studies Facility Title II design. This is being done at the 50% complete stage and is the first of two reviews to be conducted. An additional review will be conducted at the 90% complete stage.

This 50% design review is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on March 30, 1992, in Room 10 of Science Applications International Corporation Training Center at 101 Convention Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada. The review will last one week. This design review is limited to the drawings, design studies, and specifications related to Design Package 1A of the North Portal Area. The review will address: (1) north portal surface preparation, (2) north portal headwall and launching chamber, (3) north portal electrical distribution, and (4) north portal water distribution. The basis of the review will be the regulatory, geologic, and engineering/design considerations appropriate to the scope of the first design package.

We would welcome NRC's observation of this upcoming review. For planning purposes, it would be helpful if you could let us know if you are interested in attending.

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, or if you wish to confirm your attendance, please do not hesitate to contact Priscilla Bunton at (202) 586-8365.



John P. Roberts  
Acting Associate Director for  
Systems and Compliance  
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cc:

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