

AUG 20 1990

- 2 -

MEMO BLAHA/FORD

MEMORANDUM FOR: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management, NMSS

SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION IN OECD WORKSHOP ON FLOW
HETEROGENEITY AND SITE EVALUATION

The OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is conducting a workshop on Flow Heterogeneity and Site Evaluation at OECD Headquarters in Paris, France, during the week of October 21, 1990. Also on Saturday, prior to the workshop, the OECD is hosting a site visit to a proposed deep repository for nuclear waste in Wellenberg, Switzerland. A key objective of the workshop is to review and discuss the appropriateness of current groundwater flow modelling techniques in light of the data available or likely to be available within site evaluation programs. Both the workshop and the site visit will provide a forum for discussion between scientific experts involved in the modelling and in the field investigation of groundwater flow. Participants will include scientists from the Department of Energy (DOE).

Mr. Ford is currently responsible for evaluating the DOE program to characterize the hydrology of the proposed Nevada high-level nuclear waste repository. He will actively participate in the workshop and discuss unsaturated zone hydrologic modelling and site characterization concerns that have been identified through our ongoing pre-licensing performance assessment efforts. Thus, attending the workshop would be of direct benefit to the NMSS high-level waste program.

DHLWM can schedule the work activities of Mr. Ford so that the impact of his participation in the NEA Workshop would not be significant. A request for travel authorization is attached for your approval.

151

Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management, NMSS

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