



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

ACNWR-0073

PDR

June 2, 1992

Mr. James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Taylor:

SUBJECT: RULEMAKING ON DESIGN BASIS EVENTS FOR GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY
OPERATIONS AREA

During its 43rd meeting, May 28-29, 1992, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste met with members of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) staff to review the proposed rulemaking on "Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in Geologic Repositories--Design Basis Events for the Geologic Repository Operations Area."

On the basis of our discussions with the staff, and our detailed reading of the supporting documents, we believe that the NMSS staff has prepared this proposed rule in a competent manner. Our principal comments follow:

1. The staff has indicated that the four classes of design basis events will be described in the "Statement of Considerations" that will accompany the rule. We suggest that further consideration be given to incorporating this descriptive information into the rule itself.
2. One of the bases for establishing the 50-mSv (5-rem) dose limit at the boundary of the "controlled-use area" is to ensure protection of the onsite workers at the repository. This goal should be clearly enunciated in the proposed rule.

Some time ago, we were told that similar rulemaking would be undertaken to resolve a number of key issues related to the licensing of a high-level radioactive waste repository. We recommend that the use of the rulemaking process be pursued to resolve these other key issues in a timely manner.

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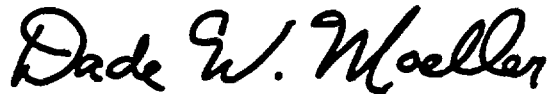
Mr. James M. Taylor

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June 2, 1992

Detailed comments regarding this subject can be found in the transcript of our meeting. We endorse publication of this proposed rule for comment, taking into account our recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dade W. Moeller". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dade W. Moeller
Chairman

Reference:

Memorandum dated April 29, 1992 from B. J. Youngblood, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, transmitting Draft Proposed Rulemaking, "Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Waste in Geologic Repositories--Design Basis Events for the Geologic Repository Operations Area"



UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

June 5, 1992

NOTE TO: Donald H. Lanham, Acting Chief
Docketing and Document Control Desk Section
Document Control Branch

FROM: Ethel M. Barnard
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

SUBJECT: PLACEMENT OF "FULL TEXT" ACNW DOCUMENTS ON NUDOCS

In accordance with direction from Jim Blanton, I have attached the following documents for "full text" processing through the NUDOCS system:

ACNWR-0073 - Moeller ltr 6/2/92, Rulemaking on Design
Basis Events for Geologic Repository
Operations Area

ACNWR-0074 - Moeller ltr 6/2/92, Proposed Rulemaking on
Emergency Planning...(ISFSI) and Monitored
Retrievable Storage Facilities (MRS)

ACNWR-0075 - Moeller ltr 6/2/92, License Application
for the High-Level Waste Repository

ACNWR-0076 - Moeller ltr 6/2/92, Comments on Regulatory
Guides to Implement the Revised 10 CFR
Part 20 Requirements

Also enclosed is a 3 1/2" diskette containing the "electronic text" of the documents. The documents are in "WORDPERFECT" format. Your signature in the space below, will serve as confirmation of receipt of the "Hard Copy" and "Electronic Copy". Please return a copy of this note to me at Mail Stop P-315. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me on x27691.

Ethel M. Barnard, ACNW

Received by Donald H. Lanham:

Signature: _____ Date: _____