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RESOLUTION OF SITE CHARACTERIZATION ANALYSIS (SCA) QUESTION 53 (SCPB: N/A)

References: (1) Ltr, Shelor to Linehan, dtd 12/14/90

(2) Ltr, Bernero to Bartlett, dtd 7/31/91

On December 14, 1990, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) transmitted its responses to objections, comments, and questions presented in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) SCA (Reference 1). The NRC staff evaluated these responses, closing some of the items and creating open items of the remainder (Reference 2). The open item identified above has been addressed through actions and progress in the program.

Question 53 asked why the cooling rate of the glass waste form was not specified in the Site Characterization Plan.

DOE's basis for resolution is to indicate that criteria for the canistered waste form such that the "temperature shall not have exceeded 400° C during storage to ensure that the glass transition temperature has not been exceeded" is specified in the Waste Acceptance System Requirements Document (DOE/RW-0351, Revision 1, page 41) (enclosure 1). In addition, studies undertaken at the Savannah River Complex (enclosure 2) indicate that there is no need to control the cooling rate of the glass waste form other than that required to maintain the integrity of the pour canister and to cool the glass to below the glass transition temperature as quickly as possible.

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9410170155 941007 PDR WASTE WM-11 PDR 102.6 NHOB '\ DOE believes that the supplemental response provided in Enclosure 3 is sufficient to resolve SCA Question 53. DOE requests that the NRC provide confirmation that the response is adequate. It would be helpful if a response to this request were coordinated with the DOE request to the NRC to evaluate the supplemental responses to Comments 35, 45, and 51.

If you have any questions, please contact Thomas W. Bjerstedt at (702) 794-7590.

Stephan J. Brocoum Assistant Manager for

Suitability and Licensing

AMSL: TWB-5174

Enclosures:

- 1. Waste Acceptance System
 Requirements Document,
 Revision 1
- 2. Bickford and Pellarin (1986) Report DP-MS-86-72
- 3. Administrative Record for SCA Question 53

-3-

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