BOB MILLER
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

ROBERT R. LOUX
Executive Director

AGENCY FOR NUCLEAR PROJECTS
NUCLEAR WASTE PROJECT OFFICE
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710
Telephone: (702) 687-3744
Fax: (702) 687-5277

March 23, 1992

Ivan Selin
Chairman
United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to your invitation to expand on a conservation you had with Carl Johnson and Steve Frishman, of my staff, during a January 13, 1992, visit to the Yucca Mountain potential high-level nuclear waste repository site. As you recall, the discussion centered on matters regarding the NRC/DOE staff relationship during the pre-license application period, and the meaning and significance intended by the various parties in their references to "closure" of items or issues. I was pleased to hear of your firm view at the time that no issues will be considered "closed" prior to a license proceeding.

I have not written sooner because in the period following that discussion there have been some events that had direct bearing on the subject at hand. The most important, I believe was the February 6, 1992, NRC/DOE staff management meeting which is summarized and discussed in the attached letter to John Linehan of your staff.

As I noted in that letter, a process now has been set in motion to arrive at mutual understandings of the matters about which our concern was expressed to you. I view this as a useful and constructive step, and look forward to the State's continued participation in establishing understandings among all parties within existing statutory and regulatory requirements during the pre-license application period.

9204010322 920323
PDR WASTE
WM-11 PDR

102.3
WM-11
NH03

I appreciate your interest in the matters which you discussed with my staff, and will keep you notified of our views of progress as the process continues to develop.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Loux
Executive Director

RRL:cs