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106

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Mr. Andrew D. Bell
Pennzoil Exploration & Production Company
P.O. Drawer 1828
Midland, Texas, 79702

Dear Mr. Bell:

As we have discussed during our telephone conversations, the NRC staff is interested in having the opportunity to review and to examine the geophysical data which Pennzoil has collected in the vicinity of the proposed nuclear waste repository site in northeastern Deaf Smith County, Texas. The proposed site area lies south of Vega, north and west of the intersection of highways 385 and 2587. If possible, we would be interested in sending three NRC representatives to conduct this review during February 6 and 7, 1986. The primary purpose of this review would be to determine if the data indicates the presence of structural features which may have an affect on the performance of a repository at this site should it be recommended and approved for site characterization. One of the main areas of interest would be near the recently drilled Black well.

We realize that the data is considered by Pennzoil Company to be of a proprietary nature. Normally, all information available to us, and which has not been classified as proprietary, will be placed in our public document rooms, and therefore be accessible to all members of the public. To maintain the information in a proprietary state, Pennzoil should determine which portions of the data are proprietary and the limitations which are to be imposed on its access. We would appreciate it if Pennzoil will provide this information to us prior to our review.

Finally, as the siting of the proposed repository is being conducted by the Department of Energy, we understand that DOE staff are also interested in reviewing this data. They may be in contact with you to set up their own reviews.

If there are any questions, or if you require any clarification, please contact me at (301) 427-4211. I greatly appreciate your effort and cooperation in this matter.

Abou-Bakr Ibrahim, Project Officer
Geology-Geophysics Section
Geotechnical Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

1372

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