



Department of Energy

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DRAFT REPORT-FORENSIC REVIEW OF UNDERGROUND SOUTHERN NEVADA WASTE (USW)-G4 BOREHOLE DATA AS EXISTING DATA IN LICENSING

In accord with your request of June 2, 1988, we are enclosing a copy of the subject report (revision 1, July 11, 1988). Please be aware that the original intent of the report was to provide a mechanism by which "lessons learned" relative to previous core handling methods could be evaluated and considered to insure that adequate procedures and documentation were developed for the new Sample Management Facility.

At the present time, the Yucca Mountain Project Office (Project Office) policy, as discussed in my letter of January 12, 1988, (enclosure 2), is to rely on the future activities described in the Site Characterization Plan and other related documents to provide data for use in the license application. Also, the Project Office does not intend to rely upon using the existing data in the license application unless it can be qualified in accordance with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)-Generic Technical Positions about qualification of existing data (June 1987) and then only to the extent absolutely necessary. Consequently, a decision by the Project Office relative to Recommendation 3 on page 3 of the Enclosure 1, regarding the qualification of USW-G4 data, has not yet been made. We fully recognize that should it prove necessary to qualify data from USW-G4 (or other existing drillholes) the type of information contained in the attachments to the report will play a major role in the qualification process and would, of course, be made available to NRC at that time. We do expect that the existing data will be very useful as "confirmatory" information to support the data we will be acquiring in the future.

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PDR WASTE PDC
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The information contained in the enclosures cited in the enclosed report is available for review in my office if you feel that is necessary. Please contact Uel S. Clanton at 794-7943 or Maxwell B. Blanchard at 794-7939 of my staff.



Carl P. Gertz, Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Project Office

YMP:USC-2968

Enclosures:

1. Executive Summary and Text (only) of
Forensic Review of USW-G4 Borehole
Data as Existing Data in Licensing,
Revision 1, July 11, 1988
2. Ltr 1/12/88 Gertz to Distribution

cc w/o encls:

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