



Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office
P. O. Box 98518
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

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QA: N/A

OCT 13 1989

Paul T. Prestholt
Site Representative
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1050 East Flamingo Las Vegas, NV 89119

COLLECTION OF J-13 WELL WATER

The environmental clearances for the collection of 100 gallons of J-13 well water have been completed. Please contact William T. Hughes of my staff at 794-7959 to schedule a date for collection. Some lead time will be required to schedule contractor support to run the well, transport the filled drums to the shipping dock, etc.

I would like to ensure that your people get the sample you need and in the condition you require. Please be aware that in the past, some organizations have collected water samples from J-13 in containers which they supplied that appear to have been contaminated. Obviously, what is clean or what is contaminated depends on the experiment or analytical technique that is being used to study the sample. The Linehan to Stein letter of September 18, 1989, indicated that there will be multiple users for this water sample. The selection of container(s) and cleaning of those containers should be premised on the most sensitive analytical technique that may be used during the study of the J-13 water, rock, and waste package interface.

Consequently, I request that your organization supply the collection containers and assume full responsibility for cleaning the containers. Additionally, your people should participate in the water collection and sealing of the containers so that you will be aware of any collection condition that could affect water quality. This cooperative effort should ensure that the sample collected is adequate for intended investigation.

Please contact Uel S. Clanton of my staff at 794-7943 or William T. Hughes at 794-7959 if you need additional information.

YMP:USC-274

Maxwell Blanchard
Maxwell B. Blanchard, Director
Regulatory & Site Evaluation Division
Yucca Mountain Project Office

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OCT 13 1989

Paul T. Prestholt

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cc:

Ralph Stein, HQ (RW-30) FORS

Gordon Appel, HQ (RW-331) FORS

Samuel Rousso, HQ (RW-1) FORS

J. J. Linehan, NRC, Washington, D.C. 

R. R. Loux, NWPO, Carson City, NV

Dennis Bechtel, Clark County, Las Vegas, NV

Mike Baughman, Intertech, Carson City, NV

S. T. Bradhurst, Nye County, Tonopah, NV