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MEMORANDUM FOR: Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
Repository Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

FROM: Malcolm R. Knapp, Chief  
Geotechnical Branch  
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR EA REVIEWS

We have completed preparation on our review of site geochemistry, hydrology, and geology/geophysics information anticipated to be included in the draft Environmental Assessments (EAs) which will be submitted by the Department of Energy (DOE) for a high-level waste site in Tuff, Basalt and Salt. This preparation has focused on the development of eleven Umbrella Site Technical Positions concerning geochemistry, hydrology, and geology/geophysics issues at each site. On a selective basis, other activities have included: (1) scoping reviews of preliminary EA drafts by WMGT staff and contractors, (2) understanding DOE siting guidelines, (3) obtaining familiarity with available documents and data, (4) reviewing key documents, (5) on-site data reviews, and (6) developing key scenarios and conceptual models.

The work described above completes our efforts under Operations Plan Milestones 53141212.1, 53141212.2, 53141212.3 (RHO-BWIP/BASALT/respectively geology, hydrology, geochemistry); 53141222.1, 53141222.2, 53141222.3 (NNWSI-NTS/Tuff/repectively geology, hydrology, geochemistry); and 53141232.1, 53141232.2, 53141232.3 (ONWI/Salt/respectively geology, hydrology, geochemistry). Until the draft EAs are submitted by DOE we intend to continue our activities, as needed, in order to remain cognizant of DOE work in geology/geophysics, hydrology and geochemistry for all three sites.

If you have any questions, please contact me (X74739); or John Starmer (X74541), Phil Justus (X74684) or Mike Fliegel (X74094) of my staff.

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Malcolm R. Knapp, Chief  
Geotechnical Branch  
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

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