LETTER/SAM ROUSSO

- 1 -DEC 07 1988

Mr. Sam Rousso, Acting Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Rousso:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has established a Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses located in San Antonio, Texas. Your predecessor, Mr. C. E. Kay, had the opportunity to visit the Center on October 24, 1988. I hope that you will also have an opportunity to visit the Center. One of the major tasks of the Center is to assist the NRC in the identification of regulatory, technical and institutional uncertainties related to the licensing of the repository. Identification and early elimination or reduction of such uncertainties is essential to ensuring an efficient licensing process. To accomplish this, the Center is establishing a systematic approach to assist the staff in identification of these uncertainties, and the actions required by NRC or DOE to resolve them.

The Center is approaching a point where it needs specific information from DOE. I would appreciate your help in arranging a meeting between our staffs during the next three weeks to identify the information the Center needs and discuss how to best obtain this information. NRC staff will also provide your staff with further information on the system being developed by the Center.

Mr. John Linehan in the Division of High-Level Waste Management will be the contact to arrange the meeting. He can be reached on 492-3387.

Sincerely, 151 Richard E Cunningham

Hugh L. Thompson, Jr., Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

(\* see previous concurrence)

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U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

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Sincerely,

Hugh L. Thompson, Jr., Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

(\* see previous concurrence)

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LETTER/SAM RUSSO

Mr. John Linehan in the Division of High-Level Waste Management will be the contact to arrange the meeting. Mr. Joseph Bunting is the NRC Project Manager for the Center and will also be involved.

Sincerely, Hugh L. Thompson, Jr, Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards/ DISTRIBUTION NMSS R/F/ **Central Files** HLEN R/F JBunting, HLEN RBrowning, HLWM JYoungblood, HLWM JLinehan, HLPM RBallard, HLGP SFortuna, HLEN BStiltenpole, HLEN MDelligatti, HLEN PAttomare, HLEN PJustus, HLGP SCoplan, HLPM JPearring, HLGP MSilberberg, RES JCook, SGTR GArlotto, RES NMSS Director's R/F MMace, ARM/CNB1 JFunches, PMDA (\* see previous concurrence)

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Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Russo:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has established a Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses located in San Antonio, Texas. Your predecessor, Mr. C. E. Kay and Lake Barrett had the opportunity to visit the Center on October 24, 1988. I hope that you too will have an opportunity to visit the Center in the near future. One of the major tasks of the Center is to assist the NRC in the identification of regulatory, technical and institutional uncertainties related to the licensing of the repository. By the identification and early elimination or reduction of uncertainty we hope to remove the impediments to the licensing process. To accomplish this, the Center is establishing a systematic approach to assist the staff in identification and resolution of these uncertainties. It is anticipated that after the first of the year, a time will be set aside to appraise you in detail of the activities being undertaken by the Center, and to establish interfaces for information exchange.

- 1 -

The Center is approaching a point in the development of its system where it needs specific information from DOE. I would like our appropriate staff to meet, at a time convenient to you, during the next three weeks to discuss how we might identify and obtain this information and also to provide you and your staff further information on the system being developed by the Center.

Sincerely,

Hugh L. Thompson, Jr., Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

cc: J. Funches

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DATE :11/ 8/88						

# LETTER/SAM ROUSSO

- 2 -

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