



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

SEP 06 1990

Mr. Joseph Youngblood, Deputy Director
Division of High-Level Nuclear Waste
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1155 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Youngblood:

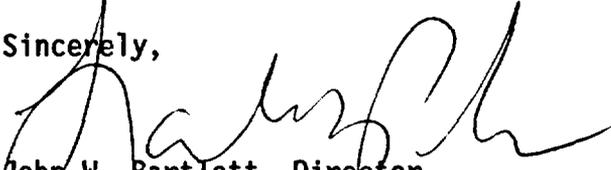
My letter of August 22, 1990, invited your participation in a conference on September 24-25, 1990, in San Francisco, California, to discuss a number of areas in which strategic principles for the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program need to be developed.

I regret to inform you that we must defer that conference, as well as another that had been planned for October 1990, in light of the severe budget reduction that may be imposed on the Federal Government. The funding commitments that are needed for the conferences simply cannot be made at the present time.

I want to assure you that we are committed to the concept that effective participation by affected and involved parties in the development of strategic principles that will guide program implementation is essential to the success of the program. Because of this, I hope to be able to reschedule the conferences for later this year. In addition, I firmly believe that the strategic principles should provide the foundation for the program's Mission Plan Amendment, which was to have been issued in draft for public comment around the end of the year. Our schedule for developing the Mission Plan Amendment will, therefore, be adjusted to reflect the deferral of the conferences.

I regret any inconvenience that the conference deferral may have caused. We will advise you of the new plans for the first conference as soon as it can be rescheduled.

Sincerely,


John W. Bartlett, Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

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