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WM Project 11
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Dr. Donald L. Vieth
Director
Waste Management Project Office
U. S. Department of Energy
Nevada Operations Office
P. O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

Dear Dr. Vieth:

This letter is in response to your April 10, 1985, inquiry regarding the NRC's future sample needs. We appreciate your interest in early planning for future sample needs from participants involved with the NNWSI project.

Despite the difficulty in projecting all of the NRC's future sample needs, the following may serve as a "best guess" for your planning. Providing you with this information now does not, of course, deny the likelihood that we will need to expand or modify this list in the future.

Borehole Sample Requests

Ten one-meter long, 10 cm plus diameter cores from the Paintbrush nonwelded unit.

Ten one-meter long, 10 cm plus diameter cores from the Topopah Spring welded unit.

Ten one-meter long, 10 cm plus diameter cores from the Calico Hills nonwelded unit.

One core sample 1.5 meters long, 10-15 cm in diameter with intact length/diameter sections at least 2:1. The core should be taken from the most likely repository waste storage level, and have the minimum number of fractures, joints, vugs, etc.

Exploratory Shaft Sample Requests

Two blocks of 50x50x50 cm dimensions from the Paintbrush nonwelded unit.

Two blocks of 50x50x50 cm dimensions from the Topopah Spring welded unit.

Two blocks of 50x50x50 cm dimensions from the Calico Hills nonwelded unit (unsaturated).

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Two to four blocks of 90x90x90 cm dimensions from the repository horizon.

Two standard barrels of blocks with dimensions between 30x30x30 and 50x50x50 cm from the repository horizon.

All samples should be sealed immediately after recovery to prevent excessive drying, and be subjected to the minimum disturbance during drilling, shipping, and handling.

We expect to formalize these requests within the next several months. If you have any questions concerning this response please contact King Stablein of my staff at FTS 427-4611.

Sincerely,

John J. Linehan, Section Leader
Repository Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: T. Nicholson
J. Philip

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