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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, Nevada 89114-4105

Dear Dr. Vieth:

Among the NNWSI Project/NRC interactions confirmed during the DOE/NRC management meeting in Washington, D.C. was the Unsaturated Zone Hydrology/Geochemistry technical meeting scheduled for September 23-26, 1985. The NRC proposed this meeting and has agreed to take the lead in developing the meeting agenda. As the first step in this process we are providing you with our meeting objectives as follows:

1. Establish a common understanding of current hydrological and geochemical knowledge and conceptualization of the unsaturated zone at Yucca Mountain.
2. Reach agreement on the technical concerns requiring more detailed hydrological and geochemical knowledge of the unsaturated zone for resolution.
3. Initiate discussion of kinds and amounts of data that are needed to get more detailed hydrological and geochemical knowledge of the unsaturated zone.
4. Initiate discussions of the methods by which such data might be gathered and analyzed.
5. Initiate discussions on strategies for modeling the unsaturated zone, with respect to particular issues. One topic of special interest is how to model different flow regimes (matrix flow and fracture flow).

We would appreciate receiving the NNWSI Project objectives by August 5, 1985 so that we can proceed with development of a mutually satisfactory agenda for the meeting.

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If you have any questions about these objectives, please contact N. K. Stablein (FTS 427-4611) of my staff.

Sincerely,

**RECEIVED**

John Linehan, Section Leader  
Repository Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management

cc: J. S. Szymanski, WMPO-NV  
M. A. Glora, SAIC,  
Las Vegas, NV

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