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Dr. Donald L. Vieth  
 Waste Management  
 Department of Energy  
 Nevada Operations Office  
 P.O. Box 14100  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89114-4105

Dear Dr. Vieth:

This is in response to your letter dated September 5, 1984. In that letter you state the view that although the NRC staff tour of G-tunnel will be included during the Geology Data Review, it will be beyond the scope of the review; and therefore, the staff should not make comments based on the tour.

As I stated in my August 22, 1984 letter to you, the purpose of the site visit being conducted in connection with the data review is, among other things, to enable the NRC staff geologists and NRC contractors to examine fresh lithologic exposures of stratigraphic units and to observe the nature of the contacts between units. G-tunnel provides a unique opportunity for examination at depth of tuff formations that may be analogous to those at the Yucca Mountain site. Accordingly, we consider the visit to G-tunnel to be an integral part of the Geology Data Review. Naturally, information obtained during our review that could have a bearing on licensing will be brought to your attention during our prelicensing consultations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (FTS-427-4728).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Seth Coplan  
 Repository Projects Branch  
 Division of Waste Management

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