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Mr. Kenneth W. Stephens Manager, Technology Assessment The Aerospace Corporation Suite 4000 955 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20024

Distribution: HM-83-806 WM file: A-4165 HMEG r/f wm-10, 11, 16 REBrowning MJBell JTGreeves EAWick KCChang& r/f JOBunting DRMattson **BJHiller** MRKnapp PSJustus LBHigginbotham PDR LPDR (8,N,S)

Dear Mr. Stephens:

We have reviewed Aerospace's October Progress Report for the project entitled "Preparation of Engineering Analysis for High-Level Waste Packages in Geologic Repositories" (FIN A-4165).

- 1. We agree with your decision not to exclude any failure modes in your present development of the waste package fault trees. We should point out, however that any exclusion of failure modes later on must be justified by numerical evaluation and the justification must be documented in a report. This is necessary even if the evaluation is a quantification of human judgments based on data insufficient for reliable quantification.
- 2. Please consider discussing the content of the fault trees/event trees you will have developed in the forthcoming NRC/DOE waste package workshop for BWIP during the week of February 27, 1984.
- 3. The following is an update of the distribution list for the monthly progress report for this project (A-4165). Please mail the copies of monthly progress reports directly to the individuals.

Office of the Director, NMSS (ATTN: Program Support Branch) Division Director, NMSS, Division of Waste Management (2) J. T. Greeves, Acting Chief, Engineering Branch E. A. Wick, Materials Engineering Section, Engineering Branch M. B. McNeil, Waste Management Branch, RES Branch Chief, Waste Management Branch, RES

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The action taken by this letter is considered to be within the scope of the current contract A-4165. Please notify me immediately if you believe this letter would result in changes to costs or delivery of contracted products.

Sincerely,

Kien C. Chang Engineering Branch Division of Waste Management

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