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426-1/A7150/WRK/85/10/28

- 1 -

OCT 29 1985

Dr. Malcolm D. Siegel
 Division 6431
 Sandia National Laboratories
 Albuquerque, NM 87185

Dear Dr. Siegel:

SUBJECT: CONTRACT NO. NRC-50-19-03-01/FIN A-1756, "GEOCHEMICAL SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS"

I have reviewed the September, 1985 monthly progress report for the above contract, dated October 14, 1985. Based on my review of this report, progress to date is satisfactory. I have been discussing your proposal to write data base preprocessors for PHREEQE and MINEQL. A preprocessor for EQ3/EQ6 may be more useful than one for PHREEQE. However, isn't there a program that converts PHREEQE formatted data to EQ3/EQ6 formatted data? Do you know anything about this program and whether or not it is applicable?

George Birchard has some comments on your report "Geochemical Sensitivity Analysis for Performance Assessment of HLW Repositories: Effects of Speciation and Matrix Diffusion." He is uncertain how to use the results of your studies because there are large uncertainties in every part of the system being analyzed. He feels that in your approach only geochemistry is being treated as having uncertainties.

The action taken by this letter is considered to be within the scope of the current contract FIN A-1756. No changes to costs or delivery of contract products is authorized. Please notify me immediately if you believe this letter would result in changes to costs or delivery of contracted products.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Walton R. Kelly
 Geochemistry Section
 Geotechnical Branch
 Division of Waste Management
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

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