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10, 11, 16  
WM Project  
Docket No. PDR  
PDR LPDR (B,N,S)  
LPDR (B,N,S)

Ms. Susan K. Whatley  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
P.O. Box X  
Chemical Technology Division  
Building 4500 N, MS 211  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Distribution:  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Return to WM, 623-SS)

Dear Ms. Whatley:

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF DECEMBER MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR B0290 "LABORATORY EVALUATION OF DOE RADIONUCLIDE SOLUBILITY DATA AND SELECTED RETARDATION PARAMETERS, EXPERIMENTAL STRATEGIES, LABORATORY TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES"

I have reviewed the December, 1984 Monthly Progress Report dated January 10, 1985 for the subject contract. Based on my review, progress to date is satisfactory.

During FY85, the emphasis of the experimental and calculational studies of B0290 will change from systems involving HLW in basalt to those involving HLW in tuff. With this shift, I strongly recommend that those working on B0290 should contact Linda A. Kovach directly when technical questions arise concerning application of experimental studies to site-specific conditions. As the NRC lead geochemist for NNWSI, she has been studying the geochemical processes expected in a HLW repository in tuff for the past year and, thus, should prove a valuable asset to the contract during its conversion. Furthermore, as one of the principal users of the products of the contract she should have the opportunity to provide input into what data are needed and how they might be generated. Her telephone number is FTS 427-4693.

The trip to Mercury, Nevada for acquiring site-specific samples was apparently successful. However, final judgment will have to be reserved until the samples are in hand. I will send you a trip report shortly, describing my observations of the meeting and the subsequent tour of the NTS.

I realize that with review of the EA's, priorities were shifted for a month concerning delivery of products. However, please let me know about your schedule for the annual report for FY84. I will call you next week and discuss this schedule with you.

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PDR WMRES EXIORNL  
B-0290 PDR

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The action taken by this letter is considered to be within the scope of the current contract FIN B-0290. No change to cost 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 contract products.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

John W. Bradbury  
Geochemistry Section  
Geotechnical Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

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JFC	: WMGT JWB	:	:	:	:	:	:
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