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MAR 1987

Mr. Robert Browning, Director
Division of Waste Management
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 623-SS
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Browning:

Thank you for your comments on DOE's final Environmental Assessments of sites nominated as suitable for site characterization for a geologic repository. The comments will be most helpful to the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, in the short term in the development of Site Characterization Plans for the three recommended sites, and in the longer term in planning for preparing a License Application.

We look forward to continued, and increased, staff-level interaction with NRC. In the course of such technical meetings, we will discuss areas of concern to the NRC, such as uncertainties, alternative interpretations, and means to resolve them in determining a site's suitability for development as a repository.

Sincerely yours,

S.H. Kale

Stephen Kale
Associate Director
Office of Geologic
Repositories

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