



**NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY PROJECT OFFICE**

**P.O. BOX 1767 • TONOPAH, NEVADA 89049**

**(702) 482-8183 • FAX (702) 482-9289**

August 4, 1995

John H. Austin  
Chief, Performance Assessment & Hydrology Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Pneumatic Pathways Technical Exchange July 31, 1995


Dear Mr. Austin:

I would like to express my appreciation for you making your staff available for the technical exchange on unsaturated zone pneumatic pathways on Monday, July 31, 1995. Although we continue to feel that the issues warranted a full day (at least) face-to-face meeting, we are nevertheless satisfied that given the time available the exchange was very successful.

Based on the information exchanged during the meeting, including your own closing remarks, as well as subsequent informal conversations with your staff and YMSCO personnel and its contractors on the Las Vegas end, we are confident that there is now an increased awareness of the importance of data acquisition in this area. This is particularly true with respect to timely, undisturbed gas chemistry data. We are now more confident that the DOE site characterization program in this area will be improved, resulting in improved understanding by all concerned of these important natural systems at Yucca Mountain.

Again, we appreciate the availability and attention of you and your staff.

Very truly yours,  
NYE COUNTY, NEVADA

  
Les W. Bradshaw, Manager  
Nuclear Waste Repository Project Office

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John H. Austin  
August 4, 1995  
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cc: William L. Offutt, Nye County Manager  
Phil Niedzielski-Eichner, Governmental Dynamics, Inc.  
Mal Murphy, Nye County Regulatory and Licensing Advisor  
Nick Stellavato, Nye County On-Site Representative  
Parvis Montazer, Multimedia Environmental Technology, Inc.  
Stan Sims, Nye County Assistant Project Administrator  
Russ Patterson, DOE  
April Gil, DOE  
John Austin, NRC  
Carl Johnson, State Nuclear Projects Office  
William D. Barnard, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board  
Dan Dreyfus, DOE/OCRWM