

Asadul H. Chowdhury,
Manager, Mining, Geotechnical, and Facility Engineering
Center For Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
6220 Culebra Road, P.O. Drawer 28510
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510

October 18, 1999

**SUBJECT: REPOSITORY DESIGN AND THERMAL MECHANICAL EFFECTS KEY
TECHNICAL ISSUE INTERMEDIATE MILESTONE NO.20-1402-671-950:
ROCK-MASS BEHAVIOR IN THE TRANSITIONAL ZONE BETWEEN STRONG
AND WEAK ROCK CONDITIONS**

Dear Dr. Chowdhury,

I have reviewed the subject Intermediate Milestone Report submitted by the Center on September 15, 1999. This report is accepted and considered to fulfill the Center's obligation for this intermediate milestone under the Repository Design Thermal-Mechanical Effects Key Technical Issue Program Element for the Fiscal Year 1999.

The results presented in the subject report may be used during the upcoming interaction with the U.S. Department of Energy on November 17-18, 1999. In this context, I suggest that a set of slides/transparencies summarizing the salient points of the study be prepared to assist us during the abovementioned interaction. I also believe that it will be useful if the authors present the results of the report and explain this analytical study in the context of underground facility design and repository performance to the Yucca Mountain Team at some point in the near future.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please contact me at (301) 415-6695 or via e-mail (msn1@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,
[Original signed by:]

Mysore Nataraja, Ph.D., PE
Program Element Manager
High-Level Waste and Performance
Assessment Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

cc: J. Linehan
B. Meehan
B. Sagar, CNWRA

DISTRIBUTION:	File Center	NMSS r/f	DWM r/f	HLWB r/f	BStiltenpole
BJagannath	CBReamer	DDeMarco	KMcConnell	DBrooks	CNWRA
JPohle	PJustus	JBradbury	JTrapp	TMcCartin	NColeman
BLeslie	JDavis	JFirth			

CNWRA TICKET#: 99000125
DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DWM\HLWB\msn\im950.wpd

OFC	HLWB	HLWB					
NAME	MNataraja: kv	KStablein					
DATE	10/18/99	10/18/99					

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

ACNW: YES ☒ NO ☐ Delete file after distribution: Yes ☒ No ☐

- 1) This document should/should not be made available to the PUBLIC Rej 10/18/99
2) This document is/is not related to the HLW program. If it is related to HLW, it

9910270172 991018
PDR WASTE
WM-11 PDR

Rej 10/18/99

WM-11
1/10
NH16
4261