

August 7, 1995

Mr. Ronald A. Milner, Director
for Program Management and Integration
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U.S. Department of Energy, RW 30
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

SUBJECT: SAMPLES FROM PEÑA BLANCA NATURAL ANALOG STUDY

Dear Mr. Milner:

In his July 27, 1995, letter to me, Dr. Stephan Brocoum requested that the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) provide samples to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) from the Peña Blanca, Mexico ore deposit. The CNWRA, under direction of the NRC staff has been studying the Peña Blanca ore deposit for the past two years. Dr. Brocoum indicated that the requested samples would be analyzed by DOE's Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office. In subsequent discussions, it was explained that the analysis would be carried out at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff, upon consultation with the CNWRA, has determined that such samples are available and can be provided to DOE for its independent analysis. The CNWRA is in the process of shipping these samples directly to LANL.

If you have any questions on the shipment of the samples, please contact Mr. Mark Delligatti of my staff. Mr. Delligatti can be reached at 301 415-6620. Questions on the Peña Blanca project should be directed to Dr. Linda Kovach of the NRC Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research. Dr. Kovach can be reached at 301 415-6266.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
High-Level Waste and Uranium
Recovery Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: See next page

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NAME	MDelligatti		JThoma <i>SOT</i>		SBahadur		JHolonich		
DATE	8/07/95		8/1/95		8/07/95		8/1/95		

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CC List for Letter dated: August 7, 1995

cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
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M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
D. Weigel, GAO
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E. Lowery, NIEC
R. Arnold, Pahrump, NV
N. Stellavato, Nye County, NV