

FEB 19 1991

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Mr. Dwight E. Shelor, Acting Associate Director  
for Systems and Compliance  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
U. S. Department of Energy, RW 30  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Shelor:

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF REPORTS ON "SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE CONTAINMENT"

The U.S Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, working jointly with the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses, has generated three reports pertaining to the feasibility of establishing quantitative criteria for the meaning of "substantially complete containment" in 10 CFR 60.113. Copies of these reports are enclosed for your information. The reports are entitled:

- 1) NUREG/CR-5638 "Technical Considerations for Evaluating Substantially Complete Containment of High-Level Waste Within the Waste Package,"
- 2) NUREG/CR-5639 "Uncertainty Evaluation Methods for Waste Package Performance Assessment" (This report has not yet been published in final form); and
- 3) CNWRA 90-007 "Substantially Complete Containment Feasibility Assessment and Alternative Report."

The NRC staff is scheduled to brief the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste on these reports on February 21, 1991. If you have any questions about these reports, please contact Ken Kalman, the project manager for this area. Mr. Kalman can be called on FTS 492-0428 or (301) 492-0428.

Sincerely,  
**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**  
John J. Linehan, Acting Director  
Repository Licensing and Quality  
Assurance Project Directorate  
Division of High-Level Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As Stated

- cc: R. Loux, State of Nevada
- C. Gertz, DOE/NV
- S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV
- M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
- D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV
- D. Weigel, GAO

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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