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Dr. Budhi Sagar, Technical Director
Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses
Southwest Research Institute
6220 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78228-0510

Dear Dr. Sagar:

SUBJECT: PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW OF "UNCERTAINTY AND SENSITIVITY ANALYSES OF BOREHOLE SEALS IN A TWO-DIMENSIONAL VARIABLY SATURATED MULTI-LAYERED GEOLOGIC MEDIUM" (TICKET CNWRA-930132)

Per your request of May 14, 1993 we have programmatically reviewed the document entitled, "Uncertainty and Sensitivity Analyses of Borehole Seals in a Two-Dimensional Variably Saturated Multi-Layered Geologic Medium." Based on our review we have the following comments:

1. The abstract states, "This paper presents the results of sensitivity and uncertainty analyses..." However, the abstract does not identify which, if any, computer codes were used to perform the analyses.

2. If computer codes were used to perform the analyses, it would appear that publication of this paper may not be consistent with the requirements of Section 7.4.2 of the CNWRA TOP-018, which states "the use of unconfigured codes in calculations that will be reported in publications is not permitted." We understand that the CNWRA is currently revising TOP-018 to allow for the publication of documents that report the results of analyses done using unconfigured computer codes provided the document contains disclaimers. It is recommended that the appropriate disclaimers be added to this abstract.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 504-2513.

Sincerely,

John T. Buckley, Program Element Manager
Performance Assessment Element
Hydrology and Systems Performance Branch
Division of High-Level Waste Management, NMSS

DISTRIBUTION: CNWRA-930132

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