



Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
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JUN 08 1995

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EXPLORATORY STUDIES FACILITY (ESF) TITLE II DESIGN EXTERNAL
REVIEW: TOPOPAH SPRING LOOP GEOLOGY ANALYSIS (SCPB: N/A)

Enclosed for your information is the first of a series of design analyses which will be part of the ESF Title II Main Drift design (Design Package 8A). As in past design reviews, we encourage the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to participate as an observer, and request that any observations be submitted to our office within one week of receipt of this letter.

In our efforts to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the design review process, minor revisions to past practices have been made. The most significant change in our process is the conversion of design packages into individual design analyses. We believe this change provides for a review process that is conducive to our phased approach to ESF design that still allows us to benefit from external input. Further, shifting to design analyses decreases our reproduction costs and decreases travel expenses for observers because analysis packages will not need review meetings. These improvements to our process provide the NRC with an opportunity to receive these design analyses as they are produced and provide an opportunity for the staff to submit observations while each design analysis is under U.S. Department of Energy review at the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office.

We believe our internal management of the design process is improved while the process still provides external parties a chance to bring forward observations. Additionally, for your convenience, we have enclosed a schedule for review of future ESF Title II Main Drift design analyses (enclosure 2).

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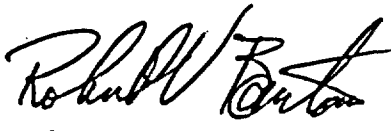
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If you have any questions, please contact either Thomas W. Bjerstedt of my staff at (702) 794-7590 or Philip R. Hammond of the Civilian Radioactive Waste Management System Management and Operating Contractor at (702) 794-5153.

for 
Stephan J. Brocoum
Assistant Manager for
Suitability and Licensing

AMSL:TWB-3411

Enclosure: (NOT RECORD MATERIAL)

1. Topopah Spring Loop Geology
Analysis
2. Proposed Schedule

cc w/encls:

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cc w/o encls:

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