



Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Office of Repository Development
1551 Hillshire Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

QA: N/A
Project No. WM-00011

DEC 16 2003

OVERNIGHT MAIL

ATTN: Document Control Desk
Chief, High-Level Waste Branch DWM/NMSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
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TRANSMITTAL OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT (YMP) ANALYSIS MODEL REPORT
(AMR) *DRIFT DEGRADATION ANALYSIS*

In response to a verbal request from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Technical Evaluation Team for the YMP, this letter transmits the enclosed YMP AMR *Drift Degradation Analysis*, ANL-EBS-MD-000027, Revision 02. This AMR is currently scheduled for review during the third phase of the NRC Technical Evaluation on YMP documents, anticipated to commence on January 12, 2004.

Please note that Interim Change Number (ICN) 1 to Revision 02 of the subject AMR is currently in preparation. This ICN is expected to change the AMR as follows:

- Update impact analyses on thermal properties in response to current data.
- Add time-dependent strength analyses in Sections 6.4 and new Attachment XIX.
- Add rockfall modeling with a consideration of spatial variation of rock mass strength throughout the model region.
- Add discussion of limitations and uncertainties of the static-fatigue and long-term strength data used in the predictions of time-dependent behavior of emplacement drift excavations in Section 6.5.
- Add additional discussion for validation of particle flow code stress corrosion modeling for assessing time-dependent rock mass behavior in Section 7.6.
- Add an assessment of spatial variation of lithophysal porosity.

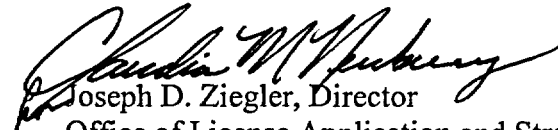
ICN 1 to Revision 02 of the subject AMR is scheduled for approval by January 23, 2004.

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There are no new regulatory commitments in the body or the enclosures to this letter.
Please direct any questions regarding this letter to Neal K. Hunemuller at (702) 794-5081.

OLA&S:NKH-0403


Joseph D. Ziegler, Director
Office of License Application and Strategy

Enclosures:

1. Yucca Mountain Project Analysis Model
Report *Drift Degradation Analysis*,
ANL-EBS-MD-000027, Revision 02,
2. CD of Enclosure 1

cc w/encls 1 & 2:

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