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	Dear Mr	. Cooley:				RCook					
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	As you requested in your memorandum of May 20, 1986, I have prepared an update of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's high-level waste management program for the NEA Radioactive Waste Management Committee summary statement on recent US progress.										
	If you have any questions contact Bill Lilley at 427-4798										
				Sincerely,							
		Original Signed by MICHAEL J. BELL									
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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

The DOE is maintaining close liaison with the NRC in order to assure that the appropriate information is available for licensing of high-level waste repositories. Procedural agreements have been prepared to guide DOE-NRC interactions. Periodic briefings and reviews are used to keep NRC abreast of ongoing activities. NRC representatives are assigned at each potential repository site that is under investigation, to maintain cognizance of site exploration activities. Preparations are underway for NRC Quality Assurance audits of DOE activities.

The U.S. NRC activities on high-level waste management emphasize four principal areas:

- 1. Amendments to the NRC rules to bring conformance with NWPA requirements. Two examples --
 - final amendments to licensing procedures (summer 1986)
 - modifications to conform the NRC's regulations (10 CFR Part 60) with the EPA standard (summer 1986).
- 2. NRC/DOE consultation and guidance program on licensing procedures.
- 3. Development of generic guidance (NRC technical positions, e.g., quality assurance, in situ testing methods, waste package reliability assessments).
- 4. Maintenance of some independent models and codes, and development of technical expertise to allow NRC assessment of DOE models.

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