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9-24-84

NOTE TO JSTARMER

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NOTE FOR: John Starmer
 Geotechnical Branch
 Division of Waste Management, WMGT

FROM: Michael Tokar
 Engineering Branch
 Division of Waste Management, WMEG

SUBJECT: BNL EA COMMENTS RELATED TO WASTE PACKAGE/GEOCHEMISTRY

We recently received from our technical assistance contractors at BNL some draft specific comments that are under consideration for inclusion in the official NRC EA comment package. The comments are attached for your perusal. We should appreciate your opinion concerning the appropriateness and validity of these draft comments for the following reasons:

1. Many of the comments address geochemistry-related matters. This is inevitable because, as you know, DOE's perception is that geochemistry is driven by waste package performance assessment. The draft EA sections on engineered barriers (for SALT) reflect this, and, the predictions of near-field conditions are influenced not only by the original geochemistry of the repository area but also by the predicted interaction of the waste package with the host material.
2. We do not wish to usurp the Geochemistry Section's responsibility for geochemistry review. In particular, we do not want our contractors to get into this area any more than is absolutely necessary due to the close coupling and overlap of the geochemistry and waste package areas.

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3. You may wish to factor some of this information into your comments on the EA findings in the geochemistry-related guideline areas.

Michael Tokar
Engineering Branch
Division of Waste Management, WMEG

cc: TCJohnson
EAWick
TLJungling
KCChang
WKelly

Enclosure:
As stated

Note: Enclosure dated 9-17-84 do Wick for 500 (A3167)

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