



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAY 07 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mike Tokar
Engineering Branch
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

WM Record File
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WM Project 16
Docket No. _____
PDR
LPDR

FROM: Michael McNeil
Waste Management Branch
Division of Radiation Programs
and Earth Sciences, RES

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED SALT WASTE PACKAGE MEETING

In response to your verbal request I list below issues which I would recommend for consideration in the next NRC/DOE Salt Repository Waste Package Workshop. I recommend that this workshop not be scheduled in June, as I shall be almost completely unavailable that month and I think it would be a good idea if I were to attend.

1. At what radiation level are radiolytic effects (both in brine and in the salt itself) judged to be negligible and on what basis is this justified?
2. If the container is made of pure iron or low carbon steel, what container thickness does neglect of radiolytic effects imply and what are the implications insofar as production processes are concerned?
3. DOE has been funding research on nucleation of colloids in salts during gamma irradiation. When may we expect the results to be reported?

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4. Does DOE accept the principle that stress corrosion cracking cannot be allowed for but must be proven not to occur? If so, how do they intend to exclude it? Are they considering ultra low carbon levels, and, if so, what is their reaction to Armco's apparent decision not to build a commercial facility based on the Sherwood process (which is as far as I am aware, the only really cheap process for mass-producing iron low enough in carbon so that a believable case may be made that the carbon level will prevent SCC)?

Michael
Michael McNeil
Waste Management Branch
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