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PDR

LPDR

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MEMORANDUM FOR: John Voglewede
Engineering Branch
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

Distribution:

Voglewede

Lyndon

Johnson

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

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

SUBJECT: SALT WASTE PACKAGE WORKSHOPS

In response to your request for my views, I would say that I believe there are significant advantages to holding the salt waste package workshop in Columbus, Ohio rather than Washington. They are:

1. NRC/RES has its major waste package program at Batelle Columbus Laboratories. Holding the workshop in Columbus makes it easier for BCL staff working on NRC projects to participate.
2. ONWI has 190 staff members, many of whom are involved either in waste package work directly or else in geochemistry and other fields which impact the waste package issue. Holding the workshop in Columbus makes it possible to obtain information from these staff members. On the other hand the NRC staff involved in salt waste package work is a small and well-defined group and holding the workshop in Washington does not make accessible a significant additional body of expertise.
3. There would be an opportunity, either before or after the workshop, for NMSS staff and contractors to become more familiar with the ongoing work at BCL. I would be happy to arrange a visit/tour at NMSS request if the meeting is scheduled for Columbus.

These are, in my view, compelling arguments for Columbus versus Washington. Considering the travel costs and time loss I cannot consider Hanford a serious alternative.

Michael McNeil

Michael McNeil
Waste Management Branch
Division of Radiation Programs
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