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Department of Energy  
National Waste Terminal  
Storage Program Office  
505 King Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43201

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December 28, 1983

WM Record File <u>106</u>	WM Project <u>16</u>
	Docket No. _____
	PDR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Distribution: <u>H. Miller</u>	<u>Eileen - Ticket</u>
(Return to WM, 623-SS)	<u>C</u>

Hubert Miller, Chief  
HLW Technical Development Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
7915 Eastern Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

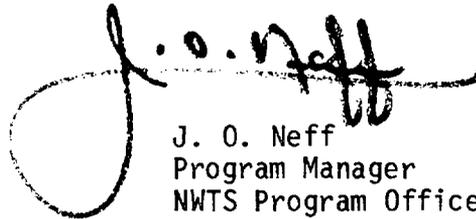
Dear Mr. Miller:

SUBJECT: APPLICABILITY OF THE SALTON SEA GEOTHERMAL FIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AS A NEAR-FIELD NATURAL ANALOG OF A RADIOACTIVE WASTE REPOSITORY  
IN SALT

Your staff recently received several copies of a technical report (BMI/ONWI-513). The Salton Sea Geothermal Field, California, as a Near-Field Natural Analog of a Radioactive Waste Repository in Salt (November 1983). After your review of the report we would be particularly interested in your opinion of the applicability of the Salton Sea as an analog of a radioactive waste repository in salt. In particular, how would the NRC view using data collected for this study in validating quantitative models of repository behavior and in designing and evaluating waste packages and engineered barriers? Do you have any suggestions for making the study results more useful?

We would appreciate receiving a reply letter by March 1984 or a letter stating when you could reply more fully.

Sincerely,

  
J. O. Neff  
Program Manager  
NWTs Program Office

NPO:LAC: 0766A

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