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•	3. Steven Brock	um, Weston		
	R. Browning	, NRC		
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	FROM: (Name, org. symbol Ralph Stein	FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post) Ralph Stein		
			Phone No. 586-5355	
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Snited States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

DATE: APR

ATTNOS: RW-23

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suster: Continuation of Pre-ES Hydrology Program Evaluation

John Anttonen, Assistant Manager, Commercial Nuclear Waste Richland Operations Office

We have decided to continue the pre-ES Hydrology Program Evaluation by considering the effects of sinking the exploratory shafts to the first basalt flow while hydrology data acquisition is underway. To accomplish this task, I have asked Ralph Stein to reconvene the Hydrology Task Group. Concurrently, you should initiate a study to evaluate the engineering aspects of sinking the shafts to the first basalt flow.

In directing these studies you should bear in mind the following guidance:

- 1. The Objectives of the pre-ES Hydrology Program remain the same. We will not undertake any activity that compromises the acquisition of hydrology data and the program goals.
- 2. The schedule for sinking the first exploratory shaft should continue to reflect the schedule in the options paper, that is, sinking of the exploratory shaft starts after the pre-ES Program is completed.
- 3. The States and Tribes should be made aware of this decision and you should plan to consult with them during the continuation of the evaluation by the Hydrology Task Group. I will arrange to inform the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- 4. Modification to the pre-ES Hydrology Program, if any, will not be made unless and until there is full consultation with all parties, and only if there is strong technical basis that acquisition of needed data will not be compromised.

If you have any questions on this direction, please contact Ralph Stein or me.

Stephen Kale

Associate Director for Geologic Repositories

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Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

87-AMC-250

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Those on Attached List

Gentlemen:

EVALUATION OF CONCURRENT EXPLORATORY SHAFT (ES) DRILLING THROUGH SEDIMENTS AND HYDROLOGY DATA COLLECTION

Attached is a program guidance memorandum from the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, DDE-HQ, pertaining to the evaluation of sinking the exploratory shafts to the first basalt flow while hydrology data acquisition is underway. As discussed in the memorandum, we will consult with the affected parties during the evaluation.

If additional information is desired, please feel free to contact me at (509) 376-7591.

Sincerely,

John H. Anttonen, Assistant Manager for Commercial Nuclear Waste

AMC:MLP

Attachment: 4/29/87 memo, Kale to Anttonen

Addressees - Letter dated May 5, 1987

Mr. Terry Husseman, Program Director High-Level Nuclear Waste Management Office Washington State Department of Ecology MS PV-11 Olympia, WA 98504-8711

Mr. Max S. Power
Washington State Institute
for Public Policy
Science and Technology Project
The Evergreen State College
3164 Seminar Building
Olympia, WA 98505

Mr. David Stewart-Smith Radioactive Materials Program Manager Siting and Regulation Division Oregon Department of Energy 625 Marion Street NE Salem, OR 97310

Mr. William Burke, Director Nuclear Waste Program Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation P. O. Box 638 Pendleton, OR 97801

Mr. Ron T. Halfmoon, Director Nuclear Waste Program Nez Perce Tribe P. O. Box 305 Lapwai, ID 83540

Mr. Russell Jim, Manager Nuclear Waste Program Yakima Indian Nation P. O. Box 151 Toppenish, WA 98948