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Mr. H. J. Miller, Chief High Level Waste Technical Development Branch Division of Waste Managemen U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Co			Elen Stre	ranse de la Constantina El colo <b>I</b>

Dear Mr. Miller:

Washington, DC 20555

Your January 13, 1983, letter requested additional information on the BWIP Exploratory Shaft construction and sealing program. We have reviewed your request and understand that your concerns principally relate to the long term sealing of the shaft and considerations that such site characterization activities not compromise subsequent isolation and containment capabilities of a repository. As discussed in our February 16, 1983, meeting at your Silver Springs, Maryland offices, the information request will be satisfied by providing documents which confirm material discussed at the October 4-5, 1982, BWIP-NRC workshop on repository design.

Consistent with the February 16 discussions, we are enclosing design, construction, and quality assurance documents for the initial shaft construction activities. Additionally, by April 1, 1983, we will prepare and forward to you a summary report which addresses the questions in the enclosure to your January 13 letter, including factors affecting long term sealing of the shaft and consideration of these factors in the design and construction of the shaft. This summary report will cover both the initial stage of shaft construction addressed in the enclosed documents and subsequent stages of the shaft construction. The report will also identify the project documents for exploratory shaft development and when they will be released for project use. This project documentation can be provided to your staff, as requested.

If there are further questions on this matter or if there is a need to discuss the enclosed information, please contact Mr. Lee Olson, Basalt Waste Isolation Project Office Manager.

Very truly yours.

John H. Anttonen, Assistant Manager for Projects and Facilities Management

BWI:OLO

Enclosures:

1. List of Reference Documents

2. Reference Documents

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BWIP EXPLORATORY SHAFT CONSTRUCTION REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- I. Documents Currently Available and Attached
  - 1. <u>B-314-C-X28018</u> (BWIP 7490) Construction Specification for Shaft Drilling and Rig Services
  - (<u>No number available</u>) Dowell letter report on their chemical seal describing available laboratory test data, performance experience in past applications, and recommendations for further testing/development.
  - 3. <u>B-314-P-S28005</u> (BWIP 7473) Procurement Specification for 72" ID Steel Casing
  - 4. <u>B-314-P-S28004</u> Procurement Specification for the 112" ID Steel Casing
  - 5. <u>B-314-B-X28028</u> Procurement Specification for Drilling Mud
  - 6. (<u>No number available</u>) Amchitka Mining History, Fenix and Scisson (1972)
  - 7. Letter #R83-0283.1 Contingency Plan for Anomaly Detection and Resolution During Exploratory Shaft Construction
  - NM 79-137 Topical Report, "Preliminary Evaluation of the Rock Mass Disturbance Resulting from Shaft, Tunnel, or Borehole Excavation," D'Appolonia, July 1982.
  - 9. <u>QAP 9.03</u> Sperry Sun Survey Procedure
  - 10. <u>SD-BWI-TI-113</u> Principal Borehole Report
  - 11. SD-BWI-AR-003 M-K Drilling Program (144" Hole)
  - 12. <u>SD-BWI-AR-002</u> M-K Mud Program (114" Hole)
  - 13. M-K Q.A. Plan for drilling 144" Hole (including mud)

- 14. Rockwell Q.A. Inspection Plan for drilling 114<sup>th</sup> Hole (including mud)
- II. Documents to be Completed and Forwarded Prior to Drilling Surface Hole
  - 1. <u>RHO-QA-PL-3, Rev. 1 L</u> "Basalt Waste Isolation Project - QA Program Plan"
  - 2. <u>RHO-QA-PL-3, Rev. 1 L</u> Appendix A, "QA Program Index"
  - 3. (<u>No number available</u>) M-K QA Plan

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