



Department of Natural Resources

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON
98504

BRIAN BOYLE
Commissioner of Public Lands

April 10, 1985

WM Record File 101-3
WM Project 10
Docket No. _____
PDR
LPDR

Mr. Dallas L. Peck, Director
U.S. Geological Survey
Mail Stop 913
Reston, VA 22092

Distribution:
K Westbrook

(Return to WM, 623-SS)
To: Westbrook, MRC

Dear Dallas:

As you know, Washington State is one of the three preferred sites identified as the nation's first deep geological repository for high level nuclear waste. The other two sites identified by the U.S. Department of Energy are Yucca Mountain in Nevada and the Deaf Smith site in Texas.

I have been intimately involved in the review of the Draft Environmental Assessment of the Hanford Site. I also serve on the Washington State Nuclear Waste Board. Although more than \$300 million has been spent by DOE and their contractor, Rockwell International, on characterizing the Hanford site, there are serious gaps in knowledge. In particular, very little is known about the geological structure and tectonic history of the area.

In that regard, I think it is essential that western Washington State be included in your program of SLAR data acquisition sites. In your letter to me dated January 5, 1984, you indicated that Yucca Mountain SLAR acquisition had been budgeted for 1982. Recently, Congressman Norman D. Dicks' staff called indicating that SLAR surveys have been budgeted for the Deaf Smith site in Texas. They expressed concern that Washington State was not included even though it is one of the three national candidate sites.

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There are other needs for SLAR imagery in western Washington. These are described in my letter to you dated January 24, 1984.

At this time, we are investigating ways of having SLAR surveys performed in Washington State. Did the U.S. Department of Energy contact the USGS to conduct SLAR at Yucca Mountain in 1982 and more recently for the Deaf Smith site? Or, did the surveys come entirely out of your budget? How much money was budgeted to conduct SLAR for the two sites? Is there anything we can do as a state to influence decision-makers that SLAR surveys are just as necessary over Hanford as at Yucca Mountain and Deaf Smith sites?

Sincerely,

Raymond Lasmanis
State Geologist
Division of Geology and Earth
Resources
RL:pw

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AREA RECOMMENDED FOR SLAR COVERAGE 1985

