



UNITED STATES
 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

86 NOV 13 #10668 23, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Wayne Walker, DWM
 FROM: Sidney J.S. Parry, ACRS Senior Fellow
 SUBJECT: Requested BHIP Borehole Information

Thank you for fulfilling my request for information on the recent drilling activities at BHIP. Summarizing the data it appears that my suspicion, that the rate of surface based characterization is decreasing, is confirmed in contradiction to the USGS recommendations. From your table I note that 15 holes were drilled in 1983, 9 in 1984, 1 in 1985 and 9 in 1986, with one still underway.

Your tables did not list final depths of the boreholes or provide information on the results of these tests. Further, while I have a good idea where the proposed site is located, the map that you provided did not indicate the site and is of limited use to less familiar people. Provision of this information would be appreciated.

As I mentioned in our meeting, a uncharitable person might conclude that the reduced exploratory activity is a result of a desire not to find out anything unfavorable. That is not my position, but I believe that an explanation of why the USGS recommended tests were not made and why there has been a major reduction in drilling activity over the past three years is justified.

Attachment:
 Walker's Note

cc: WM Subcommittee Members
 D. Okrent
 P. Shewmon
 O. Merrill
 ACRS Fellows

WM Record File
 161
 10
 [Handwritten signatures and initials]

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1 of 4

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COMMITTEES
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SMALL BUSINESS

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON
AGING**

August 20, 1987

Mr. John C. Layton
Inspector General
United States Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Layton:

The enclosed letters from the Basalt Waste Isolation Project files raise a serious question in our minds whether an attempted cover-up of information of the sort alleged in Investigation No. I85RL002 might have occurred in 1986.

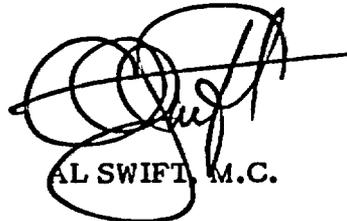
We are frankly surprised that your report on the case, closed well after these letters were written, did not discuss the first letter or its author's views on the DOE policy at issue.

We hope you will agree that further investigation into the matter is in order.

Sincerely,



RON WYDEN, M.C.



AL SWIFT, M.C.