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Mr. Wade Ballard, Acting Director  
 Division of Waste Repository Deployment  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Quality Assurance is a very important part of site characterization activities for nuclear waste repositories. With this in mind, the High-Level Waste Technical Development Branch (WMHT), has developed a draft NRC Quality Assurance (QA) Review Plan to be used in reviewing the adequacy of QA programs for geotechnical investigations used during site characterization activities. I have attached a copy of this draft review plan and would appreciate your thoughts and views on the plan.

We have developed this document to prepare for the review of the QA information that will be provided for in SCR's. The review plan is intended to guide the NRC staff review, similar to Chapter 17 of NUREG-0800 for nuclear power plants. We would be pleased to meet with you and discuss this document.

Sincerely,

*HJM*

Hubert J. Miller, Chief  
 High-Level Waste Technical  
 Development Branch  
 Division of Waste Management

Enclosures:  
 NRC Quality Assurance Review Plan

cc: Tom Longo, DOE HQ  
 Don Vieth, NNWSI  
 O.L. Olson, RHO BWIP

*No encl.*

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