

February 4, 2005

Mr. Joseph D. Ziegler, Director
Office of License Application and Strategy
Office of Repository Development
U.S. Department of Energy
1551 Hillshire Drive
North Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

SUBJECT: PRE-LICENSING EVALUATION OF REPOSITORY DESIGN AND
THERMAL-MECHANICAL EFFECTS KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE AGREEMENT
RDTME.3.18

Dear Mr. Ziegler:

This letter is in reference to Repository Design and Thermal-Mechanical Effects (RDTME) Key Technical Issue (KTI) Agreement RDTME.3.18. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) responded to this KTI agreement in Technical Basis Document No. 6 Appendix F.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed DOE's responses to this agreement. Based on our review of the information provided, NRC staff considers prelicensing activities associated with this agreement to be closed. Results of our review and feedback on DOE's responses are provided in the enclosure to this letter.

Although this agreement is considered closed, please note that NRC will make its final determination on any issues relevant to licensing during review of any License Application.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact, Daniel S. Rom of my staff, at (301) 425-6704 or by email at dsr@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lawrence E. Kokajko, Deputy Director
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:

NRC NMSS Review of DOE's KTI Agreement Response to RDTME.3.18 for a Potential Geologic Repository at YM, NV

cc: See attached list.

Letter to J.D. Ziegler from L.E. Kokajko, dated: February 4, 2005

cc:

A. Kalt, Churchill County, NV	A. Elzeftawy, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe
R. Massey, Churchill/Lander County, NV	J. Treichel, Nuclear Waste Task Force
I. Navis, Clark County, NV	W. Briggs, Ross, Dixon & Bell
E. von Tiesenhausen, Clark County, NV	M. Chu, DOE/Washington, D.C.
G. McCorkell, Esmeralda County, NV	G. Runkle, DOE/Washington, D.C.
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S. Lynch, State of NV	B. Helmer, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
P. Guinan, Legislative Counsel Bureau	R. Boland, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
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R. Anderson, NEI	J. Birchim, Yomba Shoshone Tribe

cc: (Continued)

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J. Kessler, EPRI

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K. Finrock, NV Congressional Delegation

P. Johnson, Citizen Alert

A. Capoferri, DOE/Washington, DC

J. Williams, DOE/Washington, DC

A. Robinson, Robinson-Seidler

M. Dayton, City of Las Vegas

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L. Lehman, T-REG, Inc.

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