

April 15, 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 KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE AGREEMENTS:
RADIONUCLIDE TRANSPORT 1.02 AND 3.10; GENERAL 1.01; COMMENT 27

Dear Mr. Ziegler:

In a letter dated April 12, 2004, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) submitted "Technical Basis Document No. 10: Unsaturated Zone Transport". The appendices of the technical basis document contained the DOE responses to various Key Technical Issue agreements about how radionuclide transport (RT) was represented in the unsaturated zone. This letter is in reference to three of the agreements, namely, RT.1.02, 3.10, and General 1.01 (Comment 27).

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has reviewed DOE's responses to these agreements and, based on the review of the information provided, has no further questions at this time. Although these agreements are considered closed, please note that specific comments about DOE's responses are provided in the enclosure to this letter. It is up to the DOE to decide how, or whether, to respond to the staff's feedback. The NRC will make its final determination on any issues relevant to licensing during review of any potential License Application.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of General Applicability," a copy of this letter will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). The ADAMS package accession number is ML051020515. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

J. Ziegler

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If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact, Daniel S. Rom of my staff, at (301) 415-6704 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:

The U.S. NRC NMSS Review of the U.S. DOE's KTI Agreement Responses Related to the Potential Geologic Repository at YM, NV: RT.1.02 and 3.10, GEN.1.01 Comment 27

cc: See attached list.

Letter to J. Ziegler from L. E. Kokajko, dated: April 15, 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.
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P. Guinan, Legislative Counsel Bureau	R. Boland, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
R. Clark, EPA	R. Arnold, Pahrump Paiute Tribe
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cc: (Continued)

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C. Marden, BNFL Inc.

J. Bacoeh, Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley

P. Thompson, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe

T. Kingham, GAO

D. Feehan, GAO

E. Hiruo, Platts Nuclear Publications

G. Hernandez, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

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

D. Wilson, Sen. Reid's Office

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J. Ziegler

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If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact, Daniel S. Rom of my staff, at (301) 415-6704 or by email at DSR@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

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cc: See attached list.

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