

September 2, 2005

Dr. Michael T. Ryan, Chairman  
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SELECTED U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION-  
SPONSORED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AT THE CENTER FOR  
NUCLEAR WASTE REGULATORY ANALYSES

Dear Dr. Ryan:

I am responding to your letter of August 3, 2005, which summarized observations of selected programs during an April 13-15, 2005, visit, to the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA).

During its visit, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW or Committee) team toured the CNWRA experimental facilities on corrosion and radionuclide mobility. I understand from your letter that the Committee received detailed briefings on the facilities and the performance assessment modeling developed for the independent regulatory review of the potential Yucca Mountain License Application. The team found the CNWRA presentations comprehensive and strong. The CNWRA technical experts responded to all questions raised by the ACNW, and the team noted that the CNWRA has made significant progress on ongoing work directed at understanding the controls and processes involved in container corrosion. The CNWRA's responsiveness to suggestions from ACNW's Geosphere Transport Working Group, in evaluating factors that may affect radionuclide transport and retardation, reflects the continued value that staff places on interactions with ACNW.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Luis A. Reyes  
Executive Director  
for Operations

cc: Chairman Diaz  
Commissioner Merrifield  
Commissioner Jaczko  
Commissioner Lyons  
SECY

September 2, 2005

Dr. Michael T. Ryan, Chairman  
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SELECTED U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION-  
SPONSORED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AT THE CENTER FOR  
NUCLEAR WASTE REGULATORY ANALYSES

Dear Dr. Ryan:

I am responding to your letter of August 3, 2005, which summarized observations of selected programs during an April 13-15, 2005, visit, to the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA).

During its visit, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW or Committee) team toured the CNWRA experimental facilities on corrosion and radionuclide mobility. I understand from your letter that the Committee received detailed briefings on the facilities and the performance assessment modeling developed for the independent regulatory review of the potential Yucca Mountain License Application. The team found the CNWRA presentations comprehensive and strong. The CNWRA technical experts responded to all questions raised by the ACNW, and the team noted that the CNWRA has made significant progress on ongoing work directed at understanding the controls and processes involved in container corrosion. The CNWRA's responsiveness to suggestions from ACNW's Geosphere Transport Working Group, in evaluating factors that may affect radionuclide transport and retardation, reflects the continued value that staff places on interactions with ACNW.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Luis A. Reyes  
Executive Director  
for Operations

cc: Chairman Diaz  
Commissioner Merrifield  
Commissioner Jaczko  
Commissioner Lyons  
SECY

**Distribution:** G20050550

HLWRS r/f EDO r/f MRodgers RidsEdoMailCenter  
RidsNmssOd RidsOgcMailCenter SECY-LTR-05-0401 RidsResOd

**ML052350875**

<b>OFC</b>	HLWRS		HLWRS		HLWRS		OGC		TECH ED	
<b>NAME</b>	AFetter		JGuttman		LKokajko		JMoore		EKraus	
<b>DATE</b>	8/23/05		8/24/05		8/25/05		8/25/05		8/23/05	

<b>OFC</b>	HLWRS		NMSS		OCA		EDO	
<b>NAME</b>	CWReamer		JStrosnider				LAReyes	
<b>DATE</b>	8/23/05		08/30/05		/ /05		09/02/05	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY