

Quick Look Report

Subject: Foreign Travel Quick Look Report—Goldschmidt Conference, August 27-September 1, 2006

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Travel Dates: August 24-September 1, 2006

Location: Melbourne, Australia

Organization/Committee: Organized by the European Association for Geochemistry and the Geochemical Society of America

Desired Outcome: The conference was to provide an opportunity to get feedback on NRC-funded work and obtain information from other international scientists on nuclear waste management issues that may be useful in NRC reviews and analyses of DOE work.

Results Achieved: The desired outcome was achieved.

Summary of Trip: I attended the Goldschmidt geochemistry conference in Melbourne, Australia. The conference is held every year and encompasses technical symposia on a wide variety of geochemical topics. I gave an oral presentation entitled “Deliquescence Behavior of Salts Deposited Inside the Drifts of a Potential High-Level Waste Repository.” The presentation discussed recent and ongoing deliquescence experiments utilizing natural dusts and salts from the potential Yucca Mountain repository site. The presentation was well attended, and a few audience members asked pertinent questions.

A number of other presentations of interest to nuclear waste disposal were given by speakers from a variety of countries. The presentations included information regarding colloids, sorption, and contaminant transport. An abstract cd was provided, which can be made available for further information.

With the concurrence of the NRC POC, no Foreign Travel report is planned.

Next Steps: None.

Were policy issues or other items of Commission interest raised? No.

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