December 18, 2008

Mr. Jeffrey R. Williams, Manager
Licensing Support
US Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management, RW-6
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: YUCCA MOUNTAIN - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: LICENSE APPLICATION (SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT SECTION 5.1)

Dear Mr. Williams:

By application dated June 3, 2008, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff approval of a construction authorization.

NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in your submittal and determined that additional information is required in order to complete its review. The question in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI) was emailed on December 11, 2008, and discussed in a telephone call with Ms. Deborah Barr, et al., of your staff on December 16, 2008.

The enclosed RAI replaces a prior version sent on November 26, 2008, and discussed in a telephone call with Ms. Deborah Barr, et al., on December 9, 2008. Following the December 9, 2008, call, NRC modified its original question to ensure an efficient response from DOE. As noted in the December 16, 2008, telephone call, this risk-informed phased approach does not preclude the NRC from requesting further information. DOE agreed to provide its response by February 13, 2009.

NRC staff considers that timely responses to RAIs help ensure sufficient time is available for staff review to meet its 10 CFR Part 2 schedule requirements and contribute toward the NRC's goal of efficient and effective use of staff resources. If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, please contact me at (301) 492-3193.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian Benney, Senior Project Manager
Project Management Branch Section B
Division of High Level Waste Repository Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 63-001

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc: See enclosed list

Letter to J. Williams from B. Benney dated: December 18, 2008
cc:

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R. Massey, Churchill/Lander County, NV
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L. Lee, City of Las Vegas
C. Kus, City of North Las Vegas, NV
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S. Walker, Clark County, NV
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J. Gervers, Consultant
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M. Bryan, DOE
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R. Dyer, DOE/OCRWM
C. Macaluso, DOE/OCRWM
C. Trummell, DOE/OCRWM
D. Beckman, DOE/OCRWM
M. Williams, DOE/OCRWM
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R. Clark, EPA
J. Kessler, EPRI
E. Mueller, Esmeralda County, NV
R. Damele, Eureka County, NV
A. Johnson, Eureka County, NV
C. Dahlberg, Fort Independence Indian Tribe
D. Feehan, GAO
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A. Robbins, Jennings, Strouss & Salmon, PLC
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D. Teske, Lander County, NV
S. Scholley, Legislative Counsel Bureau
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV
C. Simkins, Lincoln County
L. Mathias, Mineral County, NV
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C. Meyers, Moapa Paiute Indian Tribe
R. Holden, NCAI
R. McCullum, NEI
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R. Gamble, Nye County, NV
C. Jaszczak, Nye County, NV
E. Hiruo, Platts Nuclear Publications
S. Frishman
T. Story, Rep. Berkley's office
D. Cherry, Rep. Berkley's office
V. Prothro, Rep. Heller's office
G. Facchiano, Rep. Heller's office
M. Nakashima, Rep. Heller's office
A. Moses, Rep. Heller's office
S. Meade, Rep. Porter's office
J. Min, Rep. Porter's office
S. Olsen, Rep. Porter's office
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K. Kirkeby, Sen. Ensign's office
R. Tully, Sen. Ensign's office
A. Shaw, Sen. Ensign's office
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S. Lynch, State of NV
J. Kennedy, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe

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Sincerely,

Brian Benney, Senior Project Manager
Project Management Branch Section B
Division of High Level Waste Repository Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 63-001

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cc: See enclosed list

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