

January 13, 2009

William C. Bradshaw
P.O. Box 1223
Apple Valley, CA 92307

SUBJECT: RESERVATIONS WITH YUCCA MOUNTAIN

Dear Mr. Bradshaw,

I am responding, on behalf of Chairman Dale E. Klein, to your letter dated December 12, 2008, regarding the proposed high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. As the federal agency charged with reviewing the safety and security of the proposed repository, I can assure you that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is committed to ensuring the safe and secure storage and disposal of high level radioactive waste.

We are currently engaged in reviewing a license application from the Department of Energy (DOE) to construct and operate a repository for nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. We will determine if this repository will be safe to build and operate. Any decisions we reach, and the reasons why, will be made public and will be subject to a fair and impartial adjudicatory hearing, that is open to public scrutiny. The NRC will only issue a construction authorization if DOE can demonstrate that the proposed repository will be safely constructed and operated in compliance with NRC regulations.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael F. Weber, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein

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