April 9, 2009

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- SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT, Volume 3—POSTCLOSURE CHAPTER 2.2.1.3.1—DEGRADATION OF ENGINEERED BARRIERS 3rd SET - (DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT SECTION 2.3.6.8)

Dear Mr. Williams:

By application dated June 3, 2008, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) 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. Questions in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI) were e-mailed on March 30, 2009, and discussed in a telephone call with Ms. Corinne Macaluso, et al., of your staff on April 8, 2009. This is RAI Set 3 of Safety Evaluation Report Chapter 2.2.1.3.1, Degradation of Engineered Barriers. NRC agreed to DOE's request to extend the RAI response date that NRC included in the March 30, 2009 email. The new response date is May 12, 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) 492-3180.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John H. (Jack) Sulima, 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 J. Sulima dated: April 9, 2009
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John H. (Jack) Sulima, Project Manager
Project Management Branch Section B
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 63-001

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