

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

August 9, 1988

and the second

The Honorable Lando W. Zech, Jr. Chairman U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Zech:

SUBJECT: ACNW COMMENTS ON PROPOSED BRANCH TECHNICAL POSITION

CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FOR LOW-LEVEL WASTE

DISPOSAL FACILITIES

During the second meeting of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, July 21-22, 1988, we met with the NRC staff to discuss the referenced Branch Technical Position on environmental monitoring for low-level waste disposal facilities which has been deferred because of resource limitations. As a result of these discussions, we offer the following comments, which were affirmed on August 4, 1988 during the third meeting of the ACNW.

Because of the importance of this subject, particularly to the many states currently planning the establishment of such facilities, we believe that effort should be reinitiated to complete and issue this Branch Technical Position. In addition, the overall purpose of this position needs to be clarified, specifically to indicate whether it is being prepared to provide guidance on monitoring policy or to prescribe detailed monitoring requirements.

As this work progresses, the Committee would like to be kept informed.

Sincerely,

Dade W. Moel

Moeller

Chairman

Reference:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 CFR Part 61, "Low-Level Waste Disposal Facility; Notice of Availability and Request for Public Comment on a Branch Technical Position Paper Concerning Environmental Monitoring," published in the Federal Register, November 5, 1987 (52FR42486).