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Contract No. NRC-02-07-006
Project No. 4002.01.061
06300001

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mrs. Deborah DeMarco
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Mailstop EBB-2-BO2
Rockville, Maryland 20852

SUBJECT: Programmatic Review of Abstract (AI No. 14002.01.061.002)

Dear Mrs. DeMarco:

The enclosed abstract is being transmitted for programmatic review. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Form 390A and the Technical Presentation/Publications Checklist are also enclosed. The abstract will be submitted to the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, October 18-21, 2009, in Portland, Oregon. The title is

Independent, Objective, and Transparent Regulatory Decision-Making
by Miriam Juckett and Bret W. Leslie

This abstract discusses the role of independent analyses and unbiased research as an important factor in the NRC regulatory decision making and the efforts NRC and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses use to convey that message to the public.

Please advise me of the results of your programmatic review. If you have any questions regarding this abstract, please contact me at (210) 522-5185 or Miriam Juckett at (210) 522-3266.

Sincerely,

Sitakanta Mohanty
Sitakanta Mohanty, Ph.D.

Assistant Director
Engineering and Systems Assessment

SM:bs
Enclosures

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