August 18, 2009

Mr. Jeffrey R. Williams, Manager
Licensing Support
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management, RW-6
US Department of Energy
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 4TH 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 for a proposed geologic repository for high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain, NV.

NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in your submittal and determined that additional information is required in order to complete its review. The questions in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI) were e-mailed on August 6, 2009, and discussed in a telephone call with your staff on August 13, 2009. This is RAI Set 4 of Safety Evaluation Report Chapter 2.2.1.3.1, Degradation of Engineered Barriers. DOE has agreed to provide responses to these RAIs by September 10, 2009.

Timely responses to these RAIs will help NRC meet its 10 CFR Part 2 schedule requirements, and contribute towards meeting its goal of efficient and effective use of staff resources. If any circumstances arise that result in revisions to the requested response date, please contact me at (301) 492-3287.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jose R. Cuadrado, 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. Cuadrado dated: August 18, 2009
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