

February 2, 2010

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY)	Docket No. 63-001-HLW
)	
(High-Level Waste Repository))	ASLBP No. 09-892-HLW-CAB04
)	
)	

NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY MOTION TO STAY THE PROCEEDING

On February 1, 2010, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) filed a motion to stay the above-captioned proceeding.¹ In its Motion, DOE indicated that (1) it intends to file within 30 days a motion to withdraw the pending license application seeking an authorization to construct a high-level waste geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, and (2) it requests a stay of the proceeding (with the exception of filing on questions posed at the January 27, 2010, Case Management Conference) through the disposition of any motion to withdraw by Construction Authorization Board-04 ("the Board"). Motion at 1-2. DOE requested that the Board promptly issue an interim order suspending discovery activities pending its resolution of the Motion in light of the upcoming derivative discovery deadlines associated with depositions scheduled to begin this month. *Id.* at 2. The Board granted DOE's request for an interim suspension of discovery on February 2, 2010.² The Motion indicates the NRC staff ("Staff") took no position

¹ U.S. Department of Energy's Motion to Stay the Proceeding, dated February 1, 2010 ("Motion").

² Order (Granting Interim Suspension of Discovery), dated February 2, 2010.

on the Motion. *Id.* at 3.

After reviewing DOE's filing, the Staff does not oppose the Motion.

Respectfully submitted,

/Signed (electronically) by/

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 2nd day of February, 2010

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the "NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY MOTION TO STAY THE PROCEEDING" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following persons this 2nd day of February, 2010, by Electronic Information Exchange.

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