

Robert List

The State of Nevada Executive Chamber May 12, 1980

Capitol Complex Carson City, Nebada 89710

Mr. John F. Ahearne Chairman U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

During a meeting on November 6, 1979, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission agreed to place a staff member at the Beatty, Nevada waste disposal site for several months to inspect arriving waste shipments. This enabled our radiation protection staff to devote more of its time to the development of the necessary administrative controls under which we took strong enforcement action against shippers where violations were found and to recurit and train additional staff for the program.

We now believe we have reached the point where a full-time NRC inspector at the site is no longer needed. As of June 1, 1980, the State will provide appropriate inspection surveillance at the site.

However, we are not suggesting that all waste packaging and transport problems are solved. There has been some improvement, but the record is far from perfect. We expect NRC resources freed from Nevada to be used to inspect waste packages at waste generation sites or otherwise used in obtaining further improvements in waste management. We also expect NRC inspectors to visit the Nevada site from time-to-time to check performance of waste shippers under NRC license.

With our combined cooperative efforts, I believe further improvements in waste management can be obtained.

Sincerely,

ROBERT LIST