

DIVERSIFIED **TECHNOLOGIES**  January 26, 1990

Dr. Michael Tokar, MS-OWFN5A4 Leader, Engineering Section Division of Low Level Waste Management and Decommissioning U.S.N.R.C. Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject:

Archive Specimens for Solidification

Referce:

Workshop on Cement Solidification of Low-Level

Radioactive Waste (May 31-June 2, 1989)

Dear Dr. Tokar:

During discussions with our clients, it has come to Diversified's attention that utility personnel are very concerned about the potential upcoming requirement for establishing an archival program for cement solidification samples.

It is generally acknowledged by these individuals that cement's ability to meet the long-term stability requirements of 10 CFR Part 61 is questionable (specifically as it regards bead resin solidification), and that an archival program is necessary. Nonetheless, they are concerned about the safe storage, documentation, retrievability and personnel exposure associated with such a program.

A number of utility representatives have inquired if Vinyl Ester Styrene (VES) Solidification will also be caught up in the same program. Given the extensive testing performed on the VES Solidification Process's end product, as well as Diversified's commitment to build an archival library of non-radioactive samples for future testing, it is hoped that an archival program may not be required for VES Solidification.

Since this question will undoubtedly continue to enter into our customer discussions, Diversified would appreciate if you could provide, if not a definitive answer, at least a sense of the direction in which you and your people are headed on this issue. Since over a dozen utility personnel are scheduled to visit our facility on February 8 to inspect the monolith and view a solidification in a 30 gallon container, I'd be very grateful for your response before that date.

Sincerely yours.

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Donald E. Burroughs

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