To: R. Bangart

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UNITED STATES

ME INFORMACIEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555 JAN 28 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Daniel R. Muller, Acting Director

Division of Site Safety & Environmental Analysis, NRR

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Acting Director Division of Operating Reactors, NRR

FROM:

John B. Martin, Director

Division of Waste Management, NMSS

SUBJECT:

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORIES (BNL) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONTRACT FOR TESTING WASTE CONTAINERS

AND FORMS OF LOW-LEVEL WASTE

This is in regard to your request concerning dewatered resin wastes and chelating agents in decontamination wastes. I have enclosed copies of two subtasks on these matters which we have initiated with BNL (November 6 and 7 and December 7, 1979), and a rough draft of a branch technical position on disposal of wastes containing chelating agents. We developed the November 7 subtask with input from Lake Barrett of your staff. We would appreciate any comments you have on the December 7 subtask and the draft branch technical position.

Also, as a result of your letter of December 13, we have notified BNL that they should report any conclusions that can be drawn at this time on the performance of liners or 55 gallon drums containing dewatered resins. We did not specifically identify on-site storage in these tasks. However, much of the data to be developed will be applicable to on-site storage, and based on evaluation of the results of these tasks, we should collectively address the need for additional work in these areas.

We share your concern for the development of alternatives for disposing and storing wastes. As you suggested, on-site disposal/storage of low activity resins from condensate polishing systems, and establishment of deminimus levels for wastes are potentially viable concepts. We want to follow-up on these concepts and would like to review your data and background information on these alternatives. Especially of interest to us would be the quantity of waste which is potentially amenable to these alternatives, how the wastes would be assayed for compliance with an NRC standard limit, the characteristics of an on-site storage structure, and the chemical and physical properties of the candidate wastes. I support your suggestion for a meeting to discuss our

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mutual concerns in areas of waste management and agree that it would benefit both of our programs. To make best use of this meeting, I suggest that an NRR contact be named to work on coordinating the meeting and preparing an agenda. The Waste Management contact on this matter is Charles Bishop 42-74433.

John B. Martin, Director

Division of Waste Management, NMSS

Enclosures: As stated