

Mr. D. J. Squires
 Scientific Secretary
 Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle
 and Waste Management
 International Atomic Energy Agency
 Wagramerstrasse 5, P.O. Box 100
 A-1400 Vienna, Austria

FEB 02 1991

Dear Mr. Squires:

REFERENCE TO: 642-T2.20

We appreciate the invitation of IAEA to participate in your Coordinated Research Programme (CRP) on the "Performance of Engineered Barrier Materials in Near Surface Disposal Facilities" that you extended to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in your letter of January 2, 1991. It is with sincere regret, however, that I must inform you that NRC will be unable to fully support the Programme in the manner desired at this time. Specifically, we cannot provide the staff resources that would be necessary to make formal presentations at IAEA's Research Coordination Meetings on the topics that you have identified and which include backfill, barrier, and cover materials placed at low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities.

We do agree that an effective interchange of information on these topics would be beneficial to Member States of IAEA. In support of your efforts, we have enclosed a list of technical publications on topics related to your areas of interest that have either just recently been completed or are currently under study by NRC and that can be made available to IAEA. Upon your request, we will provide IAEA with two copies of the publications that you select.

Additionally, NRC would welcome the opportunity to review documents related to the identified areas of interest that would be available from Member States of IAEA.

We wish you continued success in your efforts and send our best regards.

Sincerely,
 (SIGNED) JOHN T. GREEVES
 John T. Greeves, Deputy Director
 Division of Low-Level Waste Management
 and Decommissioning
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated
 Distribution: (LLWM 91-0091)
 RBangart JGreeves Central File # NMSS r/f
 MTokar JKane JAustin JSurmeier PLOhaus
 LLWD t/f LLWM r/f
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 PDR NO Category: Proprietary or CF Only
 ACNW YES NO
 SUBJECT ABSTRACT: RESPONSE TO IAEA

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JK/D.J.SQUIRES/1/31

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Technical Documents Related to the Use of Backfill, Barrier and Cover Materials at Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facilities

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-5432, "Recommendations to the NRC for Soil Cover Systems over Uranium Mill Tailings and Low-Level Radioactive Wastes," Volumes 1, 2 and 3, January 1991.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG-1200, Standard Review Plan Section 4.3, Appendix A, "NRC Staff Recommendations for Filling Void Spaces Around Waste Containers Emplaced in Low-Level Waste Land Disposal Excavations," Revision 1, January 1988.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-5041, "Recommendations to the NRC for Review Criteria for Alternative Methods of Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal," Volume 1, December 1987.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Final Staff Technical Position, Design of Erosion Protection Covers for Stabilization of Uranium Mill Tailings Sites," May 1990.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-4701, "Safety Assessment of Alternatives to Shallow Land Burial of Low-Level Radioactive Wastes," Volumes 1 and 2, August 1986 and September 1987.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-5542, "Models for Estimation of Service Life of Concrete Barriers in Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal," September 1990.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-4269, "Models of Transport Processes in Concrete," January 1991.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-4235, "Selection of Siliceous Aggregates for Concrete," January 1991.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG/CR-4918, "Control of Water Infiltration into Near Surface Low-Level Waste Disposal Units, Volume 4, December 1990.

ENCLOSURE