APR 2 7 1988

MEMORANDUM	FOR:	Hugh L. Thompson, Jr., Director	
		Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguar	-ds

FROM:

Eric S. Beckjord, Director Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT:

TRANSMITTAL OF RESEARCH INFORMATION LETTER WITH RESPECT TO A METHODOLOGY TO ASSESS SAFETY DURING THE PRECLOSURE PERIOD OF A HIGH-LEVEL WASTE REFOSITORY R1L NO. 153

Enclosed are the Final Reports and accompanying Research Information Letter for research project FIN A1380, "High-Level Waste Preclosure Safety System Analysis." The design and operation of a high-level waste (HLW) repository by the DOE must comply with the NRC's HLW rule (10 CFR Part 60). The research project was initiated to develop a methodology, based upon existing quantitative techniques, to assess safety during the preclosure phase of repository development. The project consisted of a development phase (gathering, organizing, and assembling of information pertinent to the safety assessment of a nuclear waste repository during preclosure operations) and a demonstration phase. The developed methodology offers a systematic means of assessing the safety of operations and design of the preclosure period of a repository. The final reports (Phase 1 and Phase 2) provide documentation of the methodology and detail an application of the methodology on a sample problem. The application was done to test the utility of the methodology to identify structures, systems, components, and operations important to safety. If you have, any questions, please contact Tim McCartin of my staff on extension

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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- S. Burbi

Eric S. Beckjord, Director Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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Enclosures: As stated