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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
 DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION

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October 29, 1999

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OSP

Paul Lohaus, Deputy Director  
 Office of State Programs  
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 Mail Stop 5E4  
 Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Lohaus:

My staff and I would like to express our appreciation of the NRC management and staff who made our recent visit to several remediated UMTRCA sites in the Grand Junction area such a success. This was at the suggestion of Ted Johnson, who participated in the recent IMPEP review of our program and visited our Western Nuclear, Inc. site, which is nearing the end of the closure process. Because of this, and because another Washington State uranium mill (Dawn Mining Company) is also undergoing decommissioning, Ted thought we would benefit by visiting UMTRCA Title 1 and 2 sites for comparison, and for discussing and observing rock placement techniques. Ted did an excellent job of planning and organizing this trip, which was informative and educational and provided an excellent opportunity for us to interact with staff from NRC, U.S. DOE, and other Agreement States, as well as contractors with experience in rock placement.

I encourage NRC to continue this type of training for Agreement States and would welcome and support more opportunities like this for my own staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Gary Robertson".

Gary Robertson, Head  
 Waste Management Section

GR:krf

cc: Ted Johnson

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