



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2000

Mr. William H. Lake  
Waste Acceptance and  
Transportation Division  
Office of Civilian Radioactive  
Waste Management  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE  
CENTRALIZED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY

Dear Mr. Lake:

By letter dated May 1, 1997, as supplemented, the Department of Energy (DOE) submitted the Centralized Interim Storage Facility (CISF) Topical Safety Analysis Report (TSAR) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and requested that the NRC staff evaluate the TSAR and issue a Safety Evaluation Report (SER) that could be used and referenced by an applicant seeking a site-specific license for construction and operation of the CISF. The scope of the NRC's review was limited to the information provided in the TSAR, the DOE responses to the NRC's requests for additional information, and the references cited. Due to the inherent limitation of the TSAR, the NRC staff decided to issue an Assessment Report (AR, preliminary copy for review enclosed) instead of an SER. Because the TSAR is not site-specific and is lacking certain specific detailed information, a complete review addressing all of the pertinent NRC regulations is not possible. Additional information that must be included in a site-specific Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for the CISF is identified in the AR. The AR has been formatted according to the Standard Review Plan for Dry Spent Fuel Storage Facilities, NUREG-1567.

DOE is requested to respond with any inaccuracies and/or omissions by close of business on January 19, 2001. In addition to the formal transmittal of comments, please email a copy to me at AGH@NRC.GOV. Please contact me at (301) 415-1390 if you have questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allen G. Hansen, Project Manager  
Spent Fuel Project Office  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-21  
TAC No. L22327

Enclosure: Assessment Report

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*(Original Signed by:)*

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Enclosure: Assessment Report

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