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April 2, 2003
Contract No. NRC 02-02-012
Account No. 20.06002.01.071

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Mrs. Deborah DeMarco
Two White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Mail Stop T8A23
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Change of Project Number for Foreign Travel

Dear Mrs. DeMarco:

For fiscal year 2003, a foreign trip under the Radionuclide Transport Key Technical Issue was proposed to enable staff participation in the 2003 V.M. Goldschmidt Conference to be held in Kurashiki, Japan. The Goldschmidt Conference is an international forum held every year to discuss issues of interest to the geochemical community, including geological immobilization and long-term isolation of nuclear wastes. Staff had planned to present new results from Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) experimental and modeling studies on radionuclide transport and sorption on clays and zeolites, which are important minerals at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. However, due to challenges in the initiation of the sorption experiments, it is anticipated that insufficient data will have been generated by the time of the conference. Staff plans to present, instead, experimental and modeling data on the deliquescence relative humidity of salt mixtures generated by CNWRA activities designed to understand the evolution of the chemical environment surrounding drip shields and waste packages at the proposed Yucca Mountain repository. Therefore, we request that the project number for this foreign travel be changed from 20.06002.01.141 to 20.06002.01.071.

Sincerely yours,



Budhi Sagar
Technical Director

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