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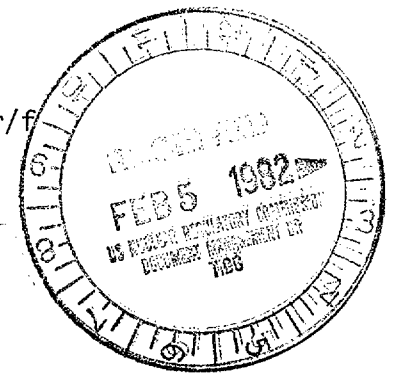
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WMHT: 3106

Mr. E. J. Frederick
Manager of Regulatory Programs
Chemical Technology Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Post Office Box X
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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Dear Mr. Frederick:

Re: Your letter to me dated December 17, 1981

We have reviewed the document that you sent which summarizes site screening activities in bedded salt sites which are being considered as locations for high-level waste repositories. As a follow-up to your letter I asked Philip S. Justus of my staff to discuss with Thomas Lomenick, whom you had designated as the ORNL liason on bedded salt, your interest in providing technical assistance to NRC on this subject.

The impression that we have is that you are willing to brief our staff and managers here in Silver Spring at ORNL's expense on both the knowledge and limitations of data that ORNL has gained or evaluated regarding the bedded salt medium, and to meet with us to explore ways of assisting NRC with its work on this medium. Such a meeting could be mutually beneficial and productive.

However, I would like to explain that we have reviewed our program requirements with regard to our contractual needs and we believe that for FY 1982 and 1983 that our present contractual arrangements are satisfactory. That is not to say that we are certain that there are no gaps in our need for technical or research assistance. Therefore, we are sending under separate cover a set of descriptions of our contracted projects for FY 1983 for you to determine any outstanding needs that we might have that ORNL might fulfill. Further, I will send statements about our technical assistance and research program plan and categories of on-going contracts so that you will be cognizant of our present activities.

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E. J. Frederick

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To facilitate arrangements for your visit should you so request, I have named Mrs. Martha Pendleton (FTS 427-4177), our staff project manager for bedded salt, to be your contact at NRC.

Do not hesitate to call me at the above number to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Hubert J. Miller
High-Level Waste Technical
Development Branch
Division of Waste Management

cc: M. Pendleton

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