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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Frank Arsenault, Director
Division of Health, Siting
and Waste Management

FROM:

Robert E. Browning, Deputy Director
Division of Waste Management

SUBJECT:

BASALT WASTE ISOLATION PROJECT (BWIP) SITE
CHARACTERIZATION REPORT

Attached is a copy of the Department of Energy's Site Characterization Report for the BWIP. It was received on November 12, 1982 by the Director of NMSS.

The review and analysis of the Report is now under way in the Division of Waste Management. We expect to release a Draft Site Characterization Analysis for internal NRC review during the last week in January, 1983. At that time a copy of the DSCA, designated NUREG 0960, will be submitted to your Office for formal review and comment. To maintain our overall schedule for publication of the DSCA for public comment, it will be necessary to request that your comments on the draft be submitted within 14 days after delivery of the DSCA to you. The overall program for preparation of the Draft Site Characterization Analysis is as described in the attached Site Characterization Report Review Plan. This program remains essentially as it was described in a briefing of your Division (P. Comella, R. Conti, J. Davis and L. Beratan) on September 15, 1982.

Meanwhile, as was agreed to between you and Jack Martin, members of your staff were assigned to the BWIP SCR review team (memorandum from H. Miller to J. Davis and L. Beratan of August 23, 1982). These and other individuals have participated in the pre-SCR workshops and are participating in the review and analysis of the Report and preparation of the Draft Site Characterization Analysis. Specifically, the following individuals have been requested to analyze specific portions of the Report and comment on them: D. Alexander, R. Kornasiewicz, and M. McNeil. The following individuals have been, or will be, asked to review

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certain technical products for the Draft Site Characterization Analysis under preparation within NMSS: G. Birchard, L. Doyle, T. Schmitt and E. Zurflueh. Specific requests for reviews by Research staff have been made by separate memoranda from this office.

I wish to thank you and through you, L. Beratan and J. Davis, for the cooperation shown in arranging for the participation of RES in the SCR review effort.

If there are questions about the SCR, or the review thereof, please address them to Hubert Miller (427-4177) or Robert Wright (427-4672).



Robert E. Browning, Deputy Director
Division of Waste Management

cc: P. Comella
R. Conti
L. Beratan
J. Davis

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