



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

SHIMPLE

DEC 2 1984

Honorable Booth Gardner
Governor of Washington
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Governor Gardner:

Section 117(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (the Act) directs the Department of Energy to submit to Congress a report on the status of negotiations leading to Consultation and Cooperation Agreements, if such agreements are not completed within six months after notification that the sites have been approved for site characterization for a nuclear waste repository. The report must include the reasons why such agreements have not been concluded. The Act also specifies that affected States and Indian Tribes have an opportunity to review and comment on this report, and their comments are to be included in the Department's submission to Congress.

On September 26, 1984, the Department of Energy transmitted a report to Congress describing the consultation and cooperation negotiations which had been initiated by the State of Washington on July 27, 1983, along with the State's comments on the report.

The enclosed report to Congress provides an update on the status of consultation and cooperation negotiations between the Department and the State of Washington since the last report was submitted. I will be transmitting this report, as well as reports for the other States and affected Indian Tribes, to Congress shortly. We would therefore appreciate receiving your comments as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Ben C. Rusche
Ben C. Rusche, Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosure