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LTR TO BENNETT

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JUL 9 1984

Mr. J. W. Bennett
Acting Associate Director
Office of Geologic Repository
Deployment
RW-20, GTN
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Enclosed please find a copy of a rulemaking paper dealing with proposed amendments to the licensing procedures for geologic repositories for disposal of high-level radioactive waste. The changes primarily deal with conforming the NRC rule to the terminology and procedures contained in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. The proposed amendments are under review by the Commission and are expected to be published in the Federal Register for comment later this fiscal year. A sixty day comment period is planned. We have made this document publicly available at this time to facilitate the review of interested parties.

Topics that may be of particular interest to you include: NRC plans for review of draft DOE Environmental Assessments and site characterization plans; the content of the site characterization plan; and the role of the NRC/DOE Procedural Agreement in the pre-licensing consultation process. I would be pleased to discuss any comments you may have before or during the public comment period.

Sincerely,

Signed by
MICHAEL J. BELL /

Michael J. Bell, Deputy Director
Division of Waste Management

Enclosure:
SECY-84-263

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