



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

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Mr. John Linehan, Director
Repository Licensing and Quality
Assurance Project Directorate
Division of High-Level
Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

On March 1, 1991, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) participated in a teleconference to discuss issues related to borosilicate glass as a waste form. During that teleconference, NRC expressed concern about the DOE strategy of testing the glass as part of the product control system. In particular, NRC was concerned that certain species present in the glass in trace amounts might not be detected in the sampling, yet could affect the glass product.

In response to the concerns over glass sampling, enclosed are two reports describing the testing that will be performed to demonstrate DOE's ability to sample, characterize, and archive production glass in the Defense Waste Processing Facility. These reports include "Glass Sampling Program During DWPF Integrated Cold Runs" and "Canister Disposition Plan for the DWPF Integrated Cold Runs".

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Desell of my staff at FTS 896-2837.

Sincerely,

Dwight Shelor
Acting Associate Director for
Systems and Compliance
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management

Enclosures: As Stated

All enclosed in copy.

CC.

R. Loux, State of Nevada

C. Gertz, DOE/YMPO/NV

M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV

D. Bechtel, Clark County, NV

S. Bradhurst, Nye County, NV