

September 30, 2005

Mr. Joseph Ziegler, Director  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management  
Office of Repository Development  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1551 Hillshire Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89134-6321

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S SEISMIC METHODOLOGY

Dear Mr. Ziegler:

This letter acknowledges U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) letter dated August 25, 2005, which provides a summary of DOE's preclosure seismic design methodology. In the letter, DOE requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's comments regarding the DOE preclosure seismic design methodology and how DOE is limiting seismic-initiating events according to that methodology in the preclosure safety analysis.

The NRC staff, with assistance from Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses, is currently reviewing DOE's letter. However, before NRC staff provides written comments, we wish to discuss this topic in a technical exchange with DOE to facilitate our understanding of DOE's seismic approach. Please note that the topic of Seismic Event Sequences is one of the proposed technical exchange topics in NRC's September 9, 2005, letter ("Proposed Guidelines for Preclosure Pre-Licensing Interactions").

If you agree with a technical exchange on this subject, please contact Timothy J. Kobetz at (301) 415-5170 or by email at [TJK1@nrc.gov](mailto:TJK1@nrc.gov) to make preparations.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lawrence E. Kokajko, Deputy Director  
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Reference: Preclosure Seismic Design Methodology for a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, TDR-WHS-MD-000004, Revision 01

cc: See attached list.

Letter to J. Ziegler from L. E. Kokajko dated: September 30, 2005

cc:

A. Kalt, Churchill County, NV	A. Elzeftawy, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe
R. Massey, Churchill/Lander County, NV	J. Treichel, Nuclear Waste Task Force
I. Navis, Clark County, NV	W. Briggs, Ross, Dixon & Bell
E. von Tiesenhausen, Clark County, NV	R. Murray, DOE/ORD
G. McCorkell, Esmeralda County, NV	G. Runkle, DOE/Washington, D.C.
R. Damele, Eureka County, NV	C. Einberg, DOE/Washington, D.C.
L. Marshall, Eureka County, NV	S. Gomberg, DOE/Washington, D.C.
A. Johnson, Eureka County, NV	W. J. Arthur, III , DOE/ORD
L. Klusmire, Inyo County, CA	R. Dyer, DOE/ORD
M. Yarbrow, Lander County, NV	J. Ziegler, DOE/ORD
J. Donnell, DOE/ORD	A. Gil, DOE/ORD
M. Baughman, Lincoln County, NV	W. Boyle, DOE/ORD
L. Mathias, Mineral County, NV	D. Brown, DOE/OCRWM
D. Swanson, Nye County, NV	S.A. Wade,, DOE/ORD
M. Henderson, Cong. J. Gibbon's Office	C. Hanlon, DOE/ORD
D. Hammermeister, Nye County, NV	T. Gunter, DOE/ORD
M. Simon, White Pine County, NV	A. Benson, DOE/ORD
J. Ray, NV Congressional Delegation	N. Hunemuller, DOE/ORD
B. J. Vonderheide, NV Congressional Delegation	R. L. Craun, OPM&E
T. Story, NV Congressional Delegation	M. Mason, BSC
R. Herbert, NV Congressional Delegation	S. Cereghino, BSC
M. Murphy, Nye County, NV	B. Gattoni, Burns & Roe
C. Guedry,, NV Congressional Delegation	E. Mueller, BSC
K. Kirkeby, NV Congressional Delegation	J. Mitchell, BSC
R. Loux, State of NV	D. Beckman, BSC/B&A
S. Frishman, State of NV	A. Alfano, Lincoln County, NV
S. Lynch, State of NV	J. Kennedy, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
P. Guinan, Legislative Counsel Bureau	B. Durham, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
R. Clark, EPA	R. Arnold, Pahrump Paiute Tribe
R. Anderson, NEI	J. Birchim, Yomba Shoshone Tribe

cc: (Continued)

R. McCullum, NEI

S. Kraft, NEI

J. Kessler, EPRI

D. Duncan, USGS

R. Craig, USGS

W. Booth, Engineering Svcs, LTD

C. Marden, BNFL Inc.

J. Bacoeh, Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the  
Owens Valley

P. Thompson, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe

T. Kingham, GAO

D. Feehan, GAO

E. Hiruo, Platts Nuclear Publications

G. Hernandez, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

K. Finrock, NV Congressional Delegation

P. Johnson, Citizen Alert

A. Capoferri, DOE/Washington, DC

J. Williams, DOE/Washington, DC

A. Robinson, Robinson-Seidler

M. Plaster, City of Las Vegas

D. Wilson, Sen. Reid's Office

L. Lehman, T-REG, Inc.

W. Barnard, NWTRB

T. Feigenbaum, BSC

R. Holden, NCAI

C. Meyers, Moapa Paiute Indian Tribe

R. Wilder, Fort Independence Indian Tribe

D. Vega, Bishop Paiute Indian Tribe

Egan, Fitzpatrick, Malsch, PLLC

J. Leeds, Las Vegas Indian Center

J. C. Saulque, Benton Paiute Indian Tribe

C. Bradley, Kaibab Band of Southern Paiutes

R. Joseph, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

L. Tom, Paiute Indian Tribes of Utah

E. Smith, Chemehuevi Indian Tribe

D. Buckner, Ely Shoshone Tribe

V. Guzman, Walker River Paiute

D. Eddy, Jr., Colorado River Indian Tribes

H. Jackson, Public Citizen

J. Wells, Western Shoshone National Council

D. Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council of NV

I. Zabarte, Western Shoshone National  
Council

S. Devlin

G. Hudlow

D. Irwin, Hunton & Williams

P. Golan, DOE

M. Rice, Lincoln County, NV

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Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
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<b>OFC</b>	HLWRS		HLWRS		OGC		HLWRS	
<b>NAME</b>	MNataraja		MBailey		JMoore		LKokajko	
<b>DATE</b>	09/20/05		09/20/05		9/29/05		9/30/05	

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