JAN 2 3 1986

Dr. Marvin Kauffman
American Geological Institute
4220 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Dear Dr. Kauffman:

Per your request of 13 January 1986, enclosed is a short description of the NRC earth sciences research program with the anticipated FY 1987 budget level. This input is suitable for use in the chapter for the Earth Sciences in the AAAS Report on Research and Development FY 1987.

Sincerely,

Leon L. Beratan, Chief
Earth Sciences Branch
Divison of Radiation Programs
and Earth Sciences, RES

Enclosure: As stated
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US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In carrying out its responsibilities for ensuring public health and safety in regard to potential hazards associated with nuclear power plants and waste disposal facilities, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission(NRC) has a critical interest in the delineation, assessment, and mitigation of earthquake hazards in the United States as they pertain to nuclear facility siting, design, and construction and in the development and coordination of preparedness plans for these critical facilities and the communities in which they are located. NRC's active programs in these areas contribute to the research, mitigation, and preparedness efforts of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program(NEHRP).

The NRC earth sciences research program supports work in three topical areas: (1) regional seismographic networks in the Central and Eastern United States, (2) geological and geophysical investigations into the seismogenic mechanisms for the relatively more seismically active areas identified by the networks, and (3) development of ground motion analysis techniques and earthquake hazard assessment techniques. All of this worked is externally contracted using academia, DOE National Laboratories and commercial contractors. A budget of $4.5 million has been requested for FY 1987. This is level funding from FY 1986.

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