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MARK S. COLEMAN
Executive Director

FRANK KEATING
Governor

State of Oklahoma
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

April 7, 1997

James C. Shepherd, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Re: Sequoyah Fuels - Gore, OK Facility

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

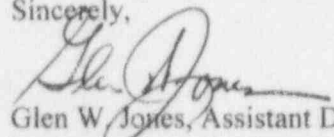
DEQ received your March 13, 1997 letter to us regarding the groundwater issues at the Sequoyah Fuel facility. This letter clarifies the role of DEQ and addresses what we consider to be the basic informational needs to determine the need for and degree of groundwater remediation at the site. DEQ commits to working with the facility and NRC to identify information needs, review this data and to participate in determining required remediation activities.

The common sense questions that need to be answered are:

- Is the groundwater contaminated and by what?
- Is the groundwater used for domestic purposes or is it capable of being used for domestic purposes?
- Is or is there the potential for the groundwater to impact surface waters or other groundwater aquifers?

We are in the process of reviewing the documents submitted by the facility and our own files for answers to these questions. We will identify and request additional data, if required. Once sufficient answers are available, we will discuss and make recommendations about the steps that should be taken in addressing groundwater in the decommissioning process.

Sincerely,


Glen W. Jones, Assistant Director
Water Quality Division

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cc: John Ellis, Sequoyah Fuels

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