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September 18, 2001

RECEIVED

Ms. Carol Hanlon  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
M/S #025  
P. O. Box 30307  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89036-0307

SEP 19 2001

"Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain"

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

The August 21, 2001, Federal Register Notice announcing the availability of the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) solicited public comments for consideration by the Secretary concerning a potential site recommendation to the President. The following is submitted in response to that request.

The statutory and regulatory bases on which a site suitability evaluation is to be made are spelled out in painstaking detail in the Introduction to the PSSE. Information from a number of sources is used to perform an evaluation of whether a Yucca Mountain repository would be likely to meet EPA and NRC radiation protection requirements. The results of these preliminary preclosure and postclosure suitability evaluations, summarized in Tables 4.1 (Preclosure) and 4.2 (Postclosure) of the PSSE, compare the preliminary results with the required limits. In all cases the limits are satisfied. Unless someone is able to demonstrate that a requirement has been overlooked or that some aspect of the analysis is fatally flawed, e.g. an invalid assumption or bad data has been used, there appears to be little room for doubt that the Yucca Mountain site satisfies the requirements that have been specified for a geologic repository for spent nuclear fuel. The process should proceed. The Secretary should recommend the site to the President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William D. Meinert".

William D. Meinert, P.E.  
Nuclear Engineer

Cc: H. Bradford White, Director and Chairman of the Board  
Roger Bacon, Acting General Manager  
J. Roy, Director of Operating Projects  
N. J. Scobbo, General Counsel

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