



Department of Energy

Carlsbad Area Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

May 2, 1997

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NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Mark E. Weidler
Secretary
New Mexico Environmental Department
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110

Dear Mr. Weidler:

Enclosed is a copy of the final report released this week by the NEA/IAEA International Review Group.

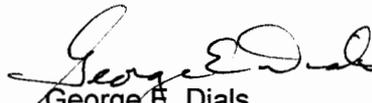
This report documents results of the technical review commissioned in June 1996 by the U.S. Department of Energy's Carlsbad Area Office. The independent review group is comprised of international experts appointed by the Nuclear Energy Agency and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Both international agencies routinely provide such review services to member countries around the world.

It is important to note that the report states, "The IRG (International Review Group) has not, during its review, found any indication that the information presented is not appropriate in the context of the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) requirement."

The IRG also identified areas for improvement in the future. The DOE is conducting further analysis in these areas to ensure additional confidence in the technical basis of performance assessment.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please contact Mr. George Basabilvazo of my staff at (505) 234-7488.

Sincerely,


George E. Dials
Manager

Enclosure

Refer to:CAO:OPA:DSH 97-0658/UFC 1200



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