



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201

May 8, 2006

Mr. Harry W. Swainston, Esq.
Attorney at Law
4040 Hobart Road
Carson City, NV 89703

Dear Mr. Swainston:

Thank you very much for your January 24, 2006, letter to the United States Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) and for the accompanying reports *History of an Issue: Upwelling of Water at Yucca Mountain*, by Harry W. Swainston, and *Analysis: Hydrothermal Activity at Yucca Mountain in light of thermal modeling and analog system observations by U.S. Geological Survey*, by Yuri V. Dublyansky. The Board has reviewed the material that you provided. After careful consideration, the Board has concluded that the evidence presented in your letter and reports does not make a credible case for the hypothesis of ongoing, intermittent hydrothermal activity at Yucca Mountain. Furthermore, the Board does not believe that an understanding of the thermal history of Yucca Mountain during time periods between the deposition of Yucca Mountain rocks and about 5 million years ago is relevant to predicting repository performance over the next one million years.

Thank you again for sending the Board your letters and supporting reports.

Sincerely,

{signed by}

George M. Hornberger, Chair
Panel on the Natural System