



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

April 10, 2007

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B. John Garrick, Ph.D.
Chairman
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board
2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, Virginia 22201-3367

Dear Dr. Garrick:

Thank you for your February 13, 2007, letter providing the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's views on the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management Program as presented to the Board at its January 24, 2007, meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

I am pleased with your assessment that my management team led by Mr. Edward Sproat, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, is moving the technical aspects of the program in a positive direction and that you are encouraged by the team's responsiveness to suggestions for improvements. Mr. Sproat and the program have my full support in their efforts to complete and submit a license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that satisfies all regulatory requirements by June 30, 2008.

I share your view on the need to continue to maintain progress in the development of a safe repository for disposing of nuclear waste. To that end, I will continue to assign high priority to work in support of funding, licensing, constructing, and beginning operation of the Yucca Mountain repository expeditiously.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact Mr. Sproat at (202) 586-6842.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Bodman".

Samuel W. Bodman

