



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300
Arlington, VA 22201-3367

July 7, 2016

Mr. John Kotek
Acting Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: DOE Response to Board Report titled *Technical Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Energy Deep Borehole Disposal Research and Development Program.*

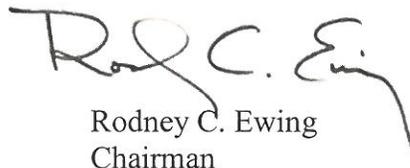
Dear Mr. Kotek:

Thank you for your letter dated June 9, 2016, that presents DOE's responses to the findings, conclusions, and recommendations presented in the Board's report on its technical evaluation of the DOE deep borehole disposal research and development program.

While the Board recognizes that budget and schedule limitations will necessarily constrain the scope of the Deep Borehole Field Test program (DBFT), the Board remains concerned that the DBFT be designed to take advantage of the opportunity to develop a solid technical and operational basis for deep borehole disposal.

The Board looks forward to reviewing the draft drilling and test plan for the DBFT. I would be grateful if you would provide a copy of the draft plan for the Board to review as soon as it is available.

Sincerely,


Rodney C. Ewing
Chairman