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Editors: John K. Bates and Waldemar B. Seefeldt

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Preface

This volume contains the Proceedings of the Tenth International Symposium on the Scientific Basis for Nuclear Waste Management. The Symposium was held December 1-4, 1986, in Boston, Massachusetts, as part of the Fall Meeting of the Materials Research Society (MRS). This symposia series is recognized for promoting the technical aspects of nuclear waste management and fosters discussion on a wide range of topics at the international level. The international character of the meeting was exemplified by representation from fifteen countries.

The theme of the Tenth Symposium was the long-term projection of materials interactions that govern the performance of repositories. In the initial Plenary Session, four invited speakers introduced the theme and described the current state of knowledge. In addition, invited speakers reviewed progress made in the past ten years in specific topic areas and made suggestions for avenues for further research.

The Proceedings consist of 71 papers that were presented at the Symposium. Each of the contributed papers was subjected to an extensive peer review process before acceptance for publication. The papers in the Proceedings have been arranged into nine parts: (I) plenary session (theme papers), (II) waste form performance: spent fuel, (III) metal corrosion, (IV) low-level waste and materials, (V) materials interactions, (VI) waste form performance: glass, (VII) radiation effects, (VIII) groundwater chemistry and interactions, and (IX) rock/backfill performance.

The organizers of the Symposium and editors of the Proceedings wish to acknowledge with thanks the invaluable help received from many individuals and organizations, all of whom helped make the Symposium a success.

The Program Committee assisted in selecting papers to be presented, conducting the required peer reviews, working with authors to ensure incorporation of the reviewer's comments into papers, and serving as Session Chairman. We are grateful for the time and energy that they contributed to the Symposium. The members of the Program Committee were:

John Bates, Argonne National Laboratory
Lawrence Johnson, Atomic Energy of Canada
Charles Interrante, National Bureau of Standards
Robert Barletta, Brookhaven National Laboratory
Ned Bibler, Savannah River Laboratory
Roger Aines, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Donald Reed, Rockwell Hanford Operations
Donald Runnels, University of Colorado
David Stahl, Battelle Memorial Institute
James Cunnane, Battelle Memorial Institute
Dan Merz, Pacific Northwest Laboratory

Session Chairman also included:

Hilbert Christensen, Studsvik Energiteknik AB, Nykoping, Sweden
Susan M. Sharland, United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
F. P. Glasser, University of Aberdeen, Scotland
B. Grambow, Hahn-Meitner-Institut, Federal Republic of Germany
J. I. Kim, Institute fur Radiochemie, Munich, FRG
Roland Pusch, Swedish Geological Sciences, Lund, Sweden

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Theme speakers were:

Alan Berusch, U.S. Department of Energy

Thomas Jungling, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Lars Werme, Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Co. (SKB)

Jeffrey Fong, National Bureau of Standards

Invited speakers were:

Virginia Oversby, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Bruce C. Bunker, Sandia National Laboratory

Michael McNeil, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Ned Bibler, Savannah River Laboratory

Rodney C. Ewing, University of New Mexico

The preparation of these Proceedings was made possible with financial support from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and jointly by the Office of Nuclear Energy, the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, and the Office of Defense Programs, of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Thanks are due to all those who have contributed to the Symposium as authors and in informal discussions, who made it possible to run the Symposium on a high scientific level. Special thanks are extended to Ms. Roberta Riel who provided invaluable assistance in preparing this volume, and to the management of Argonne National Laboratory for its encouragement, support, and use of facilities in this endeavor.

J. K. Bates
W. B. Seefeldt

January 1987