



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

May 3, 2004

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the revised Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2000-1 concerning sludge removal at the K-Basins.

The enclosed revision includes:

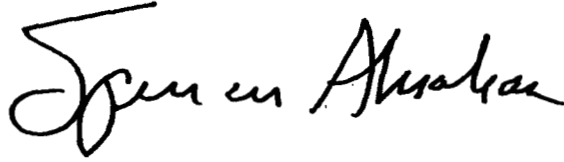
- 1) The removal path for each sludge type within the K-East and K-West Basins;
- 2) The disposition path for any irradiated fuel or fuel fragments that may be found in the sludge;
- 3) Revised commitments for the completion of sludge removal from the K-East and K-West Basins; and
- 4) Intermediate milestones for activities that represent progress in removing the sludge from the basins, such as selection of the retrieval and treatment processes for the sludge streams and startup of removal of floor and canister sludge.

The Department of Energy (DOE) will review approve and control configuration of the baseline. In addition, the revised commitments will be contractual requirements at Hanford. The DOE is committed to ensuring that the proper resources and oversight are applied to the sludge removal project, and the commitments are accomplished on schedule.



Should you or your staff have any questions concerning this issue, please call Mr. Keith Klein at (509) 376-7395 or Dr. Inés Triay at (202) 586-0738.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spencer Abraham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S".

Spencer Abraham

Enclosure

cc w/o enclosure:
Jessie Hill Roberson, EM/DOE
Mark Whitaker, DR/DOE
Keith Klein, RL/DOE