

The Secretary of Energy Washington, DC 20585

March 13, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the Department of Energy's Implementation Plan for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's Recommendation 2002-1, *Quality Assurance for Safety Related Software*. The Department considers its efforts to improve software quality assurance as a key element in our ongoing initiatives to improve quality management systems at defense nuclear facilities. We will keep you and your staff informed of our progress in meeting the commitments in this Plan.

Ms. Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health, is the Department of Energy executive responsible for our Quality Assurance Program. She is also responsible for ensuring the successful completion of this Implementation Plan. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Cook at (202) 586-6151.

Sincerely,

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cc: J. McMonigle, S M. Whitaker, S-31.

