

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

April 19, 1999

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is a document entitled *Technical Handbook of*²³³U Material Properties, Processing, and Handling Guidelines (ORNL/TM-13600). It represents the deliverable for Commitment 13 of the Department's Implementation Plan for addressing the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB) Recommendation 97-1 concerning the safe storage of ²³³U material.

The handbook is designed to serve as a single comprehensive information resource for use by the Department's federal and contractor technical workforce involved with the processing, handling, and storage of ²³³U and ²³³U bearing materials. It is intended to be an integral part of the Department's training efforts to meet the objective of retaining long-term expertise necessary to assure safe handling and storage of ²³³U.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Hoyt Johnson of my staff at (202) 586-0191.

Sincerely,

David G. Huizenga

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Material and Facility Stabilization Office of Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc: (w/encl) M. Whitaker, S-3.1