

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

May 19, 1999

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In the Revised Implementation Plan (IP) for Board Recommendation 93-3, *Improving DOE Technical Capability in Defense Nuclear Facilities Programs*, the Department committed to identifying critical technical capabilities essential to defense nuclear facility safety functions and to increase the familiarity of line management with the flexibilities available to them for hiring and retaining key personnel.

As a deliverable pursuant to Commitment 5.5.2 of the IP, information briefings have been prepared, scheduled and completed for the defense nuclear facilities. The briefing, designed to increase awareness of the flexibilities outlined in the revised Guide entitled "RECRUITING, HIRING, AND RETAINING HIGH QUALITY TECHNICAL STAFF: A Manager's Guide to Administrative Flexibilities," was developed by the Federal Technical Capability Panel. A demonstration of the briefing was provided to Board members at their request. Field Operations Offices and Program Offices scheduled and directed the completion of the briefings for their organizations.

The Department has completed all actions required under this commitment and proposes closure of this commitment.

If you have any questions please call me, have your staff contact me at (202) 426-1323.

Sincerely,

David R. Roth Executive Secretary

Federal Technical Capability Panel

CC:

Chairman, Federal Technical Capability Panel Panel Members
Mark B. Whitaker, Jr., S-3.1