

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

MAR 3 0 1998

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In our implementation plan for Recommendation 97-1, Safe Storage of Uranium-233, we commit to provide you a Uranium-233 Safe Storage System Requirements Document (SRD) in March 1998. The completion of this commitment will be delayed approximately 60 days.

Several iterations of a draft SRD have been developed by the Uranium-233 technical team and shared with your staff. However, we will need additional time to address issues raised at our most recent technical team meeting that was held March 3-5, 1998. I expect to provide a final SRD to you by May 29, 1998. Completion of subsequent milestones are not expected to be impacted by this delay.

If you have further questions, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Mr. John C. Tseng, Acting Director, Nuclear Materials Stabilization Task Group, at (202) 586-0383.

Sincerely,

James M. Owendoff

Acting Assistant Secretary

for Environmental Management

cc:

M. Whitaker, S-3.1