



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

November 6, 1998

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:

My letter of October 14, 1998, provided an enclosure that listed dates for the accomplishment of tasks related to the Integrated Pit Storage Program Plan (IPSPP) and the repackaging of pits in the AL-R8 Sealed Insert Container. The first of those dates called for the transmittal of the IPSPP to the Board by the end of October 1998. Revision 1 of the IPSPP is included as an enclosure to this letter.

The IPSPP is being used by the Department of Energy (DOE) as a management tool containing an overview of many of the activities associated with pit repackaging and storage at the Pantex Plant. It provides DOE a mechanism to identify pit-related projects and to look for ways to integrate and optimize those projects. Up-to-date, detailed schedules for all other pit-related projects are managed by DOE on a more-detailed, individual basis.

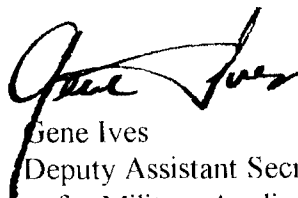
The IPSPP describes past work that was done to support pit packaging and storage decisions. It is also a living document and will be updated on an as-needed basis. Integration activities are continuing at the Pantex Plant. Additional systems engineering analysis is also being conducted to optimize the pit-storage and packaging process. The Pantex Plant will assume responsibility for maintaining this plan after your comments are incorporated into Revision 2.

The IPSPP is the foundation for the next several decades of activities devoted to the preservation of a strategic reserve of pits suitable for reassembly into weapons, as well as the safe disposition of excess pits. At your convenience, we would be pleased to discuss with you the contents of



the IPSPP and pit-related activities at the Pantex Plant. We value your input on the contents of the plan. Please contact me, or your staff may contact Lester Lee of my staff at 301-903-4006 or Richard Sena of the Albuquerque Operations Office at 505-845-6307 if you have any questions concerning the IPSPP.

Sincerely,



Gene Ives
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Military Application and
Stockpile Management
Defense Programs

Enclosure

cc w/o enclosure:

M. Whitaker, S-3.2
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