



The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 15, 1994

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:

This letter responds to the Board's June 2, 1994, letter accepting the Department's Implementation Plan for Recommendation 92-4. That letter requested the Department revise the Implementation Plan to address specific concerns by August 1, 1994 (60 days from the date of the letter).

The Department shares your concerns and commits to perform a critical design review of the Multi-Function Waste Tank Facility project, consistent with applicable industry standards. As indicated to you previously by Jill Lytle, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management, start of construction of these new tanks is predicated on successful completion of this review. In addition, Headquarters will lead an independent, top-level systems requirements review of the Tank Waste Remediation System program to validate the system requirements and enabling assumptions for the tank project.

Though the Department has received Westinghouse Hanford Company's proposed revision of the Implementation Plan, the Plan does not meet the Department's expectations ~~nor respond to all of the Board's comments.~~ We are working with your staff to revise the plan in a manner that successfully addresses the Board's concerns. We propose submitting the revised Implementation Plan by September 30, 1994.

Sincerely,


Hazel R. O'Leary