

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Pursuant to the provision of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. §552b), notice is hereby given of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (Board) meeting described below.

TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 12:30 p.m. on August 5, 1998.

PLACE: Federal Building Auditorium, 825 Jadwin Avenue, Richland, Washington 99352.

STATUS: Open.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Robert M. Andersen, General Counsel, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20004, (800) 788-4016. This is a toll-free number.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Board members will review with the Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractors the status of implementation of the Board's Recommendation 93-5. Recommendation 93-5 called for the accelerated characterization of the tank wastes at Hanford. This characterization information is needed to support resolution of safety issues and to support design of processing and disposal systems.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board has repeatedly expressed the view that the Department of Energy needs to accelerate characterization of high-level radioactive waste in underground tanks at the Hanford Site. On July 19, 1993, the Board formally recommended to the Secretary of Energy (Recommendation 93-5) that DOE accelerate its actions to sample and characterize the Hanford tank wastes. The Secretary

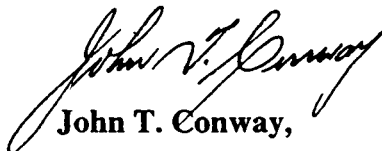
accepted the Board's recommendation, and characterization of the Hanford waste tanks is proceeding in accordance with the Secretary's Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan has two major objectives: 1) characterize the tank waste sufficiently to support resolution of tank safety issues, and 2) characterize the tank waste safety sufficiently to support design of processing and disposal systems.

A public meeting will be conducted by the Board to hear from DOE and its contractors responsible for the Tank Waste Remediation System. These individuals will brief the Board on the status of activities under the Secretary's Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-5.

A transcript of this proceeding will be made available by the Board for inspection by the public at the Board's Washington, D.C. office and at the DOE's Public Reading Room, 2770 University Drive, CIC, Room 101L, Box 999, mail stop H2-53, Richland, Washington 99352. Recommendation 93-5 in its entirety is also on file at DOE's Public Reading Room in Richland and at the Board's Washington, D.C. office.

The Board reserves its right to further schedule and otherwise regulate the course of this meeting, to recess, reconvene, postpone or adjourn the meeting, and otherwise exercise its authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

DATED: July 17, 1998.


John T. Conway,

Chairman.