



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 1996

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:

Enclosed is a memorandum of acceptance and a compliance evaluation of the Hanford Site "Performance Assessment for the Disposal of Low-Level Waste in the 200 West Area Burial Grounds." Site completion and Headquarters review and action for this performance assessment is a deliverable pursuant to the commitment in Task Initiative VII.B.5.b.1 identified in the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Implementation Plan, Revision 1, for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 94-2.

The assessment evaluates the performance of the Hanford 200 West Area burial grounds relative to the low-level waste performance objectives contained in DOE Order 5820.2A. The Headquarters review found that, with conditions, the assessment is technically acceptable and it provides a reasonable expectation of meeting the DOE 5820.2A performance objectives. This assessment is the first step in the process to complete an evaluation of projected impacts to the public and to issue a disposal authorization statement for the 200 West Area burial grounds.

The Department has completed the actions for the Hanford 200 West Area performance assessment identified under this commitment and proposes that this part of the commitment be considered complete.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Cowan".

Stephen P. Cowan  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Waste Management  
Environmental Management

Enclosure