



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
 Washington, DC 20585

June 30, 2003

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

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

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Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides you with an updated status on Department efforts to revise and re-issue the Nuclear Air Cleaning Handbook, a deliverable associated with the Department's 2000-2 implementation plan. As you know, the current revision is the first one in over 25 years. On December 2, 2002, the Department advised you that the handbook would be delayed due to the large number of technical comments received on the draft handbook and the Department's overall objective to deliver a high quality technical product. We continue to make progress toward resolving these comments and now project issuance of the handbook in September 2003.

At this time, we have completed preliminary resolution of the comments received on the handbook and we are currently re-reviewing these resolutions with the comment providers to verify the adequacy of the proposed resolutions. We have provided a copy of the current version of the Nuclear Air Cleaning Handbook to your staff for information. Your staff has been helpful to us in addressing some of the comments received.

If you have any questions please contact me at 202-586-8395 or have your staff contact Jim Slawski at 301-903-5464.

Sincerely,

James J. Mangeno, Senior Advisor
 for Environment, Safety and Health

cc: Mr. Mark Whitaker, DR-1

