



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



February 15, 2007

The Honorable A. J. Eggenberger
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, the Department has identified the Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility (PDCF) as a pilot facility in its revised Implementation Plan (IP) for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2004-2, *Active Confinement Systems*. As part of the revised IP, the Department has completed a PDCF Ventilation System Evaluation report, which was reviewed and approved by the Central Technical Authority of the National Nuclear Security Administration. This report was provided to you on December 19, 2006.

The PDCF Ventilation System Evaluation identified three potential gaps, none of which require mandatory resolution. However, one of these gaps concerning post accident indication of filter break-through in the sand filter was recommended for closure. To close this gap, the PDCF design will be modified to upgrade the sand filter exhaust sample collection system to meet Performance Category-3 Natural Phenomena Hazard criteria and safety class emergency power requirements. The design will also be modified to include a sample collection point prior to the exhaust stack, with sampling components located in the fan house. NNSA is committed to implementing these upgrades, which have been incorporated into the PDCF technical baseline.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mr. Joe Olencz, PDCF Program Manager, at 202-586-4124.

Sincerely,

William H. Tobey
Deputy Administrator
For Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation



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