

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: 6:00 p.m., December 8, 1999.

PLACE: Red Lion Hotel, Richland/Hanford House, McNary Room, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA 99352.

STATUS: Open. While the Government in the Sunshine Act does not require that the scheduled discussion be conducted in a meeting, the Board has determined that an open meeting in this specific case furthers the public interests underlying both the Sunshine Act and the Board's enabling legislation.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Board is visiting the Hanford Site as a part of its oversight of the Department of Energy's (DOE) safety management of its defense nuclear facilities. The Board's enabling legislation requires health and safety oversight encompassing design, construction, operation and decommissioning activities. The Board's Strategic Plan, submitted to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress, has identified the facilities and operations at Hanford that represent the greatest hazards and has worked with DOE to establish action plans to address them. These include emptying the K-basins, characterizing and stabilizing high-level tank wastes, stabilizing and safely storing or disposing of the weapons program radioactive residuals, and clean-up and decommissioning of contaminated facilities.

The Board will review DOE's progress on these stabilization and clean-up activities. The Board wishes to avail itself of the opportunity of this visit to learn the public's views on the Hanford clean-up program as it exists today, where they believe it should be focused in the future, and the reasons for that focus.

The Board's meeting will provide an opportunity for members of the public, DOE, and its contractor employees or their representatives to comment on or provide information directly to the Board regarding matters affecting health or safety at Hanford, including, but not limited to, those subject areas and facilities the Board will review during this visit.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kenneth M. Pusateri, General Manager, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004, (800) 788-4016. This is a toll-free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Requests to speak at the meeting may be submitted in writing or by telephone. Commentators should describe the nature and scope of their oral presentations. Those who contact the Board prior to close of business on December 7, 1999, will be scheduled for time slots, beginning at approximately 6:00 p.m. Prior to the meeting, the Board will post a schedule for those speakers who have contacted the Board. The posting will be made at the entrance to the McNary Room at the start of the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

Anyone who wishes to comment, provide technical information or data may do so in writing, either in lieu of, or in addition to, making an oral presentation. Documents

will be accepted at the meeting or may be sent to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's Washington, DC, office.

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

Dated: November 26, 1999.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. J. Eggenberger', written in a cursive style.

A. J. Eggenberger,

Vice-Chairman.