

[DNFSB LETTERHEAD]

September 30, 1993

The Honorable Hazel R. O'Leary
Secretary of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary O'Leary:

I refer to your letter of August 10, 1993, transmitting the Implementation Plan regarding Recommendation 93-2 of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) relating to the Department's program for nuclear critical facilities. The DNFSB applauds the Department's setting of department-wide, long-term goals that include well documented critical experiments to confirm the adequacy of criticality computer codes and nuclear data, general critical experiments and training capability, and the improvement of criticality predictability. The Implementation Plan shows an aggressive and purposeful schedule and predictability. The Implementation Plan shows an aggressive and purposeful schedule and the DNFSB looks forward to regular status reports that will show the timetable is being met. The DNFSB accepts the Department's Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-2 and offers the following additional comment.

The success of the Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-2 seems highly dependent on the participation of all concerned parties. Vigilance will be needed at high levels to ensure that both the users and suppliers of experiments, computer codes, nuclear data, and training will participate. In the past, because of budget constraints, many concerned parties were unwilling to share responsibility.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway
Chairman

c:
Mr. V. Stello, DP-6
Mr. M. Whitaker, EH-6