94-OCH-033

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

Dear Mr. Conway:

TRANSMITTAL OF WESTINGHOUSE HANFORD COMPANY DOCUMENT DISCUSSING REVIEW OF CHARACTERIZATION FIELD PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMITMENT 3.2 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR BOARD RECOMMENDATION 93-5.


The enclosed Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) letter (#9451458, dated February 28, 1994,) was reviewed by the Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL), and found that it did not meet the intent of the commitment. The root cause appears to be a lack of clear, written description of what is required to fulfill this commitment. RL and WHC have now defined this, (see enclosed reference letter) and a satisfactory product is expected to be delivered to you by August 15, 1994.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. J. M. Clark of my staff on (509)-376-2246.

Sincerely,

T. R. Sheridan, Acting Program Manager
Office of Tank Waste Remediation System

Enclosure

cc w/encl
K. Lang, EM-36, HQ
C. Defigh-Price, WHC w/o encl
February 28, 1994

J. M. Clark, Acting Manager
Office of Characterization
Office of Tank Waste Remediation System
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Clark:

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD 93.5 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
COMMITMENT 3.2


The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Implementation Plan
Commitment 3.2 requires that a review of characterization field procedures
be completed using U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Conduct of Operations
good practices. This letter is the notification of the completion of that
commitment. Characterization field procedures have been reviewed and those
requiring revision are being revised. Those procedures requiring revision
will be issued prior to work being performed.

Characterization field procedures were reviewed using WHC-IP-0731, "Tank
Farm Operations Procedures and Alarm Response Format and Preparation Guide".
WHC-IP-0731 incorporates the requirements of the DOE procedure writers
guide.

New procedures or those requiring extensive revision are approved work
plans. These work plans will be converted into plant operations procedures
upon successful field verification of activity.
Please contact me on 373-2038 or Mr. W. F. Zuroff on 373-1003 if you have additional questions.

Very truly yours,

C. DeFigh-Price, Manager
Characterization Program

RL - E. M. Mattlin
R. O. Puthoff (w/o attachment)