

**[DNFSB LETTERHEAD]**

June 15, 1995

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

Dear Secretary O'Leary:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has reviewed the March 31, 1995, Implementation Plan for Recommendation 94-2 and has found it to be acceptable with the following conditions:

1. The Department of Energy (DOE) approval of performance assessments needs to be based on the entire Low-Level Waste inventory located on a site such that the offsite consequences of the collection of these sources can be established.
2. The plan to perform a preliminary analysis as a precursor to the final performance assessment is acceptable to conserve resources. However, this effort should be accomplished as a continuum rather than as separate sequential studies.
3. A quarterly progress report be submitted to the Board.

Other than the above, the time commitments identified in the Implementation Plan are acceptable. The Board understands, however, that the funds that will enable the schedule to be met have not been committed as yet. It should be recognized that the amount of low-level waste involved is substantial and will only continue to grow in volume as the cleanup of DOE's sites progresses. The problem of ensuring disposal in conformance with standards used in the commercial sector will become more difficult and more expensive if the resolution of existing problems is further deferred.

The Board will continue to monitor the completion of the commitments identified in the implementation plan and make further recommendations as it deems necessary and appropriate to assure the health and safety of the public and workers. We look forward to working with you and your staff toward the implementation of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway  
Chairman

c: Mr. Mark Whitaker