



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 21, 1996

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We have received your letter to the Secretary dated August 1, 1996, which forwarded a Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board policy statement and a technical report on regulation and oversight of decommissioning activities at Department of Energy defense nuclear facilities.

Thank you for providing the Board's position on these matters. We agree that a clear understanding of the responsibilities among the Department, the Board, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the various States is important for efficient and effective safety oversight and regulation at defense nuclear facilities.

We would welcome the opportunity to have a dialogue with your staff on your policy statement and technical report.

If you have further questions, please contact me at (202) 586-7709.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alvin L. Alm", is positioned above the typed name.

Alvin L. Alm
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

