[DNFSB LETTERHEAD]

April 9, 1996

The Honorable Archer L. Durham Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration Department of Energy Washington, D.C. 20585-0701

Dear General Durham:

We have a problem that I know you would want to have brought to your attention.

On March 14, 1996, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) received the eighth quarterly progress report ending December 31, 1995, for the Department of Energy Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-3. The cover letter to the report, signed by you, is dated February 1, 1996, six weeks earlier than the date of our receiving it.

Obviously the letter, after being signed by you was:

- 1. delayed one and a half months in transmittal, or
- 2. back dated one and a half months after signing.

In either event, I am certain neither you nor I would condone either action. In the meantime, the Board will review the quarterly progress report for compliance with the Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-3.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway Chairman

c: M. Whitaker