[USOE LETTERHEAD]

April 26, 1996

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In connection with the transmittal of the Department's Implementation Plan in response to Recommendation 95-2, I wish to notify you of steps that I am taking to establish a Safety Management Implementation Team as discussed in the Plan.

The Safety Management Implementation Team will be established under the direction of Mr. Frank McCoy, Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety and Health at the Savannah River Site. Mr. McCoy will report directly to me in this capacity as Implementation Team Director. The Implementation Team will consist of a small group of senior Department Officers with representation from Field and Program Offices. The composition of the Implementation Team is set forth in Attachment 1.

I have given the Implementation Team broad authority for ensuring that the Department's commitment to an effective Safety Management System is carried out. Their charter (Attachment 2) covers not only the oversight of deliverables to the Board, but also provides responsibility for proactively driving the safety management principles and functions throughout the Department's activities. This Implementation Team will also track and reconcile safety related programs and initiatives to ensure consistency with the approach outlined in the 95-2 Implementation Plan.

Cognizant Secretarial Officers and Site and Operations Office managers have also been directed to not only support the Implementation Team in its oversight and management role of this very important initiative, but to effectively fulfill the commitments of the Implementation Plan consistent with the guidance provided by the Implementation Team.

I have directed the Implementation Team to keep the Board informed as to our progress in carrying out the ambitious undertakings in the Implementation Plan and to ensure that there continues to be full and open communication with the Board as we move forward.

I wish to reiterate the appreciation expressed by Secretary O'Leary for the tireless support by Mr. DiNunno and Dr. Kouts in the Department's effort of preparing its Implementation Plan. It is our intention that this spirit of cooperation continue as we begin our implementation activities.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Grumbly

Acting Under Secretary

Attachments:

- (1) Implementation Team
- (2) Charter

cc:

DP-1

EH-1

EM-1

ER-1

FE-1

GC-1

00-1

HR-1

NE-1

Dan Rose (AL)

Charles Billups (ER)

Dick Crowe (DP)

Charles O'Dell (EM)

John Hobbs (ID)

Susan King (MO)

Marty Mathamel (EH)

Dero Sargent (RF)

Craig Zamuda (FE)

Area Office Managers

Field Office Managers

Operation Office Managers