



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 26, 1996

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the "Mixed Low-Level Radioactive Waste Minimization Evaluation and Strategy." This report is a companion document to the "Low-Level Waste Minimization Evaluation and Strategy" that was submitted to you on August 30, 1996.

The Mixed Low-Level Waste Strategy contains 14 case study examples that Department of Energy (DOE) sites have implemented to reduce waste generation. These examples of waste minimization activities can be effective in reducing waste from routine operations, as well as from environmental restoration and decommissioning operations.

Mixed waste is expensive to manage and dispose, and the commercial nuclear industry has made great strides in reducing mixed waste generation. I am encouraging all DOE sites that generate mixed low-level waste to use these proven techniques, wherever appropriate. I have also today issued guidance to all DOE sites to incorporate pollution prevention principles into their contract award and fee evaluation processes.

In addition to supporting our Department-wide waste reduction goals, the Mixed Low-Level Waste Strategy supports the Office of Environmental Management in achieving its Ten Year Plan. One of my seven implementing principles for the Ten Year Plan concerns minimizing our generation of wastes. Accordingly, copies of the strategy have been transmitted to the Operations Offices for incorporation into their site plans.

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

Alvin L. Alm
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

1 Enclosure

cc: Mark Whitaker, S-3.1



U. S. Department of Energy

Mixed Low-Level Radioactive Waste Minimization Evaluation and Strategy

November 1996

