[DOE (RLOO) LETTERHEAD]

JAN 30 1997

97-WSD-004

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

COMPLETION OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD (DNFSB) RECOMMENDATION 93-5 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IP), REVISION 1, MILESTONE 5.6.3.1c, "LETTER REPORTING SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSED CONTENT AND FORMAT FOR TANK-BY-TANK SAFETY STATUS EVALUATION"

As a step in determining that all the necessary characterization of the high priority tanks has been completed, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) committed in the Recommendation 93-5 Implementation Plan, Revision 1, to perform a tank-by-tank safety evaluation (Milestone 5.6.3.1.h) by July 1998. This safety evaluation will assess the safety status of each tank using a combination of characterization information from both analytical results as well as from supporting technical documents.

This letter reports submission of a proposed content and format for a tank-by-tank safety status evaluation as identified in Milestone 5.6.3.1c. Several telephone conferences have been held with the DNFSB technical staff to keep them informed of the development of this work. The proposed content and format have been submitted to the DNFSB staff.

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office has completed the action identified under this milestone and proposes closure of this commitment.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Jackson Kinzer, Assistant Manager for Tank Waste Remediation System, on (509) 376-7591.

Sincerely,

John D. Wagoner Manager

WSD:NWW

cc: J. Owendoff, EM-2

J. Tseng, EM-4

R. Erickson, EM-38

K. Lang, EM-38

M. Whitaker, S-3.1