

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585 October 30, 1997

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In my letter of July 25, 1997, which forwarded the Department of Energy draft Integrated Safety Management System Guide, G 450.4-1, I expressed my expectation that the Guide would be completed and issued for use in October 1997. As I discussed during the Board's public meeting of October 23, 1997, issuance of Revision 0 of the Guide is imminent. However, I believe the Guide would be enhanced by incorporating the results of the Authorization Agreement meeting in Albuquerque, NM, on October 16, 1997, additional work completed on tailoring guidance, and our pilot, Phase II Integrated Safety Management System implementation verification experience at the Savannah River Site. In particular, we would like to incorporate the results and shared experiences discussed by the Board and the four Operations Office Managers at the October 23rd public meeting.

A Revision 0 Guide that reflects the above experience should be more useful to defense facility and activity managers as they progress their implementation of integrated safety management. Accordingly, I would like to report my revised expectation that the Guide will now be issued for use and comment in November 1997. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (202) 586-1418.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Crowe

Director, Safety Management

Implementation Team

CC:

Mark B. Whitaker,

Departmental Representative to the DNFSB (S-3.1)