



Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

JUN 13 1997

97-MSD-203

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:

DELAY IN COMPLETING DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD (DNFSB)  
RECOMMENDATION 93-5 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IP), REVISION 1, MILESTONE  
5.4.3.1.d, APPROVED TANK WASTE REMEDIATION SYSTEM (TWRS) FINAL SAFETY  
ANALYSIS REPORT (FSAR)

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that DNFSB Recommendation 93-5 IP, Revision 1, Milestone 5.4.3.1.d, "Approved Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)," will not be submitted June 30, 1997. The target date for submittal of the approved TWRS FSAR is March 31, 1998. This matter has been discussed with the DNFSB staff and was presented at the recent Board meeting at Hanford.

Activity to complete and implement the Basis for Interim Operation (BIO) has impacted the completion of the FSAR. An extensive effort was conducted by a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Contractor Integrated Control Decision Team to determine supplemental controls and future commitments beyond those identified in the BIO for selected accident scenarios. This process delayed the FSAR, although it will provide significant enhancements that are expected to reduce accident scenario risks. After evaluation by the Contractor, additional controls/commitments will be incorporated into the FSAR, and will be reexamined during future FSAR updates. DOE raised the priority of completing the BIO and has assigned additional resources to the project. The BIO was approved on May 30, 1997, at which time the implementation process began.

Full implementation of the BIO, with the exception of the DOE, Richland Operations Office (RL) approved compensatory measures, is targeted for the end of Fiscal Year 1997. The implemented BIO will serve as a major component of the TWRS Authorization Basis while the FSAR is undergoing RL review and approval. The BIO is a key transitional step from the existing TWRS Interim Safety Basis to the FSAR, and is a significant improvement to the existing TWRS Authorization Basis.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Carol L. Sohn, TWRS Management Systems Division, on (509) 376-8523.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Wagoner".

John D. Wagoner  
Manager

MSD:CLS

The Honorable Mr. John T. Conway  
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cc: P. Gubanc, DNFSB Hanford Site Rep  
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