September 30, 1998

The Honorable Bill Richardson
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Richardson:


42 U.S.C. § 2286d(a) requires the Board, after receipt by you, to promptly make this recommendation available to the public in the Department of Energy’s (DOE) regional public reading rooms. However, the recommendation contains information which is classified or otherwise restricted. Please arrange to have this letter forwarding the recommendation (which is unclassified when separated from the attachment) promptly placed on file in your regional public reading rooms.

The following is an unclassified summary of the Board’s recommendation: The Board believes that opportunities exist to strengthen and simplify the process by which DOE designs and develops activities at the Pantex Plant and independently evaluates the safety of those operations. The Board believes that DOE should take action to improve these processes.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway
Chairman

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