

Department of Energy

National Nuclear Security Administration

Washington, DC 20585

November 18, 2000

The Honorable John T. Conway Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In a September 21, 2000, letter, the Board forwarded a classified report of a Board staff review of the "Y-12 W56 Dismantlement Campaign (U)." As you are aware, the site transitioned to a new operating contractor on November 1, 2000. In the interest of ownership of the corrective actions stemming from the classified report, the Department expects to provide a response by December 8, 2000. This will allow time for the new contractor to understand and provide appropriate corrective actions.

If there are questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Xavier Ascanio of my staff at 301-903-3757.

Sincerely,

David E. Beck

Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application and Stockpile Operations Defense Programs

cc: M. Whitaker, S-3.1