

## **Department of Energy**

## **National Nuclear Security Administration**

Washington, DC 20585

October 31, 2000

Mr. John Conway Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In June of this year, we informed you that the Department expected to have appropriate studies to support a decision on the Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility filter system completed by October 31, 2000. The studies are ongoing and are now expected to be completed sometime in mid-November 2000.

As we previously committed in our June letter, as soon as all necessary information is available, we will discuss with you and your staff the details and justification for our decision.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Baker

Acting Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation

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CC:

Laura Holgate, NN-60 Ed Siskin, NN-60 Mark Whitaker, Jr., EH-9