



**Department of Energy**  
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JAN 31 2001

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

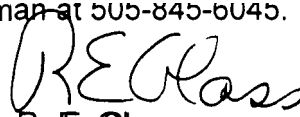
Dear Mr. Chairman:

Consistent with the Department's implementation plan (1P) for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 98-2, Revision 1, the following provides information regarding outstanding commitments due through December 2000 and the commitments currently due during January 2001. The Department proposes closure of those commitments indicated as complete.

- . Commitment 4.2.2, "Technical Business Practice (TBP) Guidance on expectations & documentation of weapon response"-This commitment is a follow-on to the published Development & Production Manual (D&P) Chapter 11.8, "Integration of Weapon Response into Authorization Bases at the Pantex Plant" published October 24, 2000, in response to commitment 4.2.1. The TBP was intended to provide further guidance on expectations for the evaluation and documentation of weapon response to potential accident environments and stimuli. While it was the Department's intent to release a new TBP, it was found that the guidance would be better suited as an Appendix to the original chapter. Therefore, Appendix A, "Evaluation and Documentation of Weapon Response Information" was developed by a cross-organizational team including members from the laboratories, the Pantex Management & Operating Contractor (M&O), and the Department. A final product was submitted for Standing Management Team approval. The revision to D&P Chapter 11.8 that includes the Appendix was published on January 30, 2001. A complete chapter is enclosed. Publication of the revision that includes the Appendix A represents completion of this commitment.
- . Commitment 4.2.4, "Assessment of the Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) Process"- This commitment is a follow-on from the original approved implementation plan actions associated with commitment 5.3.1. The purpose of this commitment is to assess the adequacy of the Pantex M&O actions and the effectiveness of the USQ process used at the Pantex Plant upon the completion of the transition of the USQ process to line management and personnel. Enclosed is the completed assessment, which represents completion of this commitment.

- . Commitment 4.2.5, "Revision #2 to the Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Authorization Basis Manual"—Status of this October commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated October 31, 2000. The revision has been completed, all reviews have been completed and resulting comments resolved. The final Revision #2 to the ISM Authorization Manual is enclosed and represents completion of this commitment.
- . Commitment 4.3.1, "DOE-approved BIO Module on Fire Protection and associated TSR and Develop a resource-loaded schedule for implementation of improved TSR controls for fire protection"—Status of this October commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated October 31, 2000, and during the briefing to the Board on December 7, 2000. The Safety Evaluation Report (SER) associated with the module and TSR is being re-written to address the comments received during its review cycle. It is anticipated the final will be complete within the next 45 days.
- . Commitment 4.3.5, "Additional DOE-Approved TSR controls derived from the NES Master Studies"- Status of this November commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated November 30, 2000, and during the briefing to the Board on December 7, 2000. The Amarillo Area Office (AAO) and the Pantex M&O Contractor are working to derive an acceptable TSR for approval. The next draft is due to AAO within 30 days. Upon receipt and appropriate review and comment resolution, the Department will submit an approved TSR to the Board.
- . Commitment 4.3.7, "Plan for Transportation Carts"-- The Department provided a partial delivery of this commitment through its letter to the Board dated October 31, 2000, by submitting Phase I of the project plan. On December 7, 2000, a summary status was provided during the Department's briefing to the Board. Enclosed is the complete and approved "Enhanced Transportation Cart Project Plan, Phase II. Submission of Phase I on October 31, 2000, and submission of enclosed Phase II, represents completion of this commitment.
- . Commitment 4.4.2, "Revisions to DOE Orders 452.1,452.2, and DOE-STD-3015 issued"- Status of this November commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated November 30, 2000, and during the briefing to the Board on December 7, 2000. Currently, Orders 452.1 B and 452.2B along with their associated "Statutory Necessity Findings" have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Administration (MA) for action. Publication is contingent upon approval by the Deputy Secretary. DOE-STD-3015 is in process of resolving the 174 comments received.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 505-845-6050, or have your staff contact Dan Glenn at 806-477-3182 or Karen Boardman at 505-845-6045.



**R. E. Glass**

Manager

Enclosures (4)

cc w/enclosure

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