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Department of Energy

National Nuclear Security Administration Washington, DC 20585

April 24, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the quarterly report for your Recommendation 98-2 for the period January 1 through March 31, 2003.

During this reporting period, the Department made progress toward completion of all commitments, and completed Commitment 4.3.2, Readiness Assessment Report for Fire Protection (Enclosure 4). The Pantex contractor also took delivery of the prototype tooling for W88 bay operations and W78 bay and cell operations in partial fulfillment of Commitment 4.4.7, Accelerated Tooling. Twenty out of twenty-eight commitments have been delivered, and eight remain outstanding.

I propose incorporating the quarterly brief into the agenda for Board's next regular visit to the Pantex Site or incorporating the status of open commitments into the agenda items where they naturally arise, at the Board's discretion. The viewgraphs customarily used to report the status of open commitments are enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Jeff Underwood 301-903-8303.

Sincerely,

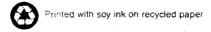
David E. Beck

Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application and Stockpile Operations

Defense Programs

4 Enclosures

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cc w/enclosures:

J. McConnell, DNFSB

W. Andrews, DNFSB

A. Matteucci, DNFSB

M. Whitaker, S-3.1, HQ

D. Glenn, PXSO

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