

John T. Conway, Chairman
A.J. Eggenberger, Vice Chairman
Joseph F. Bader
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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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December 13, 2004

The Honorable Linton Brooks
Administrator
National Nuclear Security Administration
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0701

Dear Ambassador Brooks:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has received a letter dated November 22, 2004, from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in response to the Board's request of September 27, 2004, for a report and briefing on the adequacy of safety bases at Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico. NNSA requests an extension of 30 days to satisfy the Board's request.

The Board is aware of the actions that the NNSA Sandia Site Office (SSO) is taking to investigate the concerns that the Board has raised, and of the complication caused by the tragic death of William (Bill) Mullen, the SSO Technical Director having responsibility for safety bases. In view of these considerations, the Board agrees to a 30-day extension of the due date for the requested report and briefing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Conway", is written over a white background.

John T. Conway
Chairman

c: Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.