

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

DEC 29 2004

The Honorable John T. Conway Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004-2941

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Office of Environmental Management (EM) portion of Commitment 4.2.3.3 in the Department of Energy's Software Quality Assurance (SQA) implementation plan of March 13, 2003, has been completed. This plan was in response to Board Recommendation 2002-1, *Quality Assurance Safety Software at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities*.

Each EM site has completed an assessment of their safety software. The EM scope of assessments is consistent with that described in by letter of January 29, 2004. These assessments are being reviewed and we anticipate some follow-on activities (e.g., additional assessments) as a result. Your staff has received copies of these assessments and will be kept informed regarding the progress of our review and followup activities.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 586-0738 or Ms. Patrice Bubar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Integrated Safety Management and Operations Oversight, at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

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Deputy Chief Operating Officer Environmental Management

cc: Mark Whitaker, DR-1 John Shaw, EH-1 Richard Lagdon, EH-21 Patrice Bubar, EM-3.2