



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



NOV 21 2005

The Honorable A. J. Eggenberger
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with our status on Commitment 4.3.3 of the Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 2002-1, *Quality Assurance for Safety Software at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities*. Commitment 4.3.3 required the National Nuclear Security Administration Headquarters and Site Offices to review software quality assurance (SQA) directives and determine the actions necessary to implement the requirements. This action was originally planned to be completed in September 2005.

We have completed our review of the SQA requirements contained in the Department of Energy (DOE) Order 414.1C, Quality Assurance (QA), and directed our Site Offices to update their QA Programs and to require their management and operating contractors to provide, within 90 days, plans and schedules for implementing DOE Order 414.1C. We expect responses from all Site Offices except Los Alamos Site Office by the end of December 2005. We expect to provide the site office responses including implementation plans by January 31, 2006. This submission will also include a path forward for the Los Alamos National Laboratory implementation plan.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Rabi Singh at (301) 903-5864.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. D'Agostino
Acting Deputy Administrator
for Defense Programs

cc:

M. Whitaker, DR-1

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