

August 29, 2000

The Honorable T. J. Glauthier
Deputy Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Mr. Glauthier:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) recently received the final version of the Department of Energy's (DOE) standard for long-term storage of uranium-233. DOE-STD-3028-2000, *Criteria for Packaging and Storing Uranium-233-Bearing Materials*, is a key deliverable for the Board's Recommendation 97-1, *Uranium-233 Storage Safety at Department of Energy Facilities*. DOE's 97-1 Technical Team has been working on this standard for almost 3 years and is to be commended for its hard work.

The Board's staff closely monitored the development of this standard, and the Board agrees that it specifies appropriate criteria for the stabilization, packaging, and safe storage of uranium-233. Together with timely characterization of the uranium-233 items stored at DOE facilities, particularly Building 3019 at Oak Ridge, implementation of this standard will place these materials in a safe and stable condition. It will also afford DOE the opportunity to develop a sound approach to the materials' continued storage, potential beneficial use, and ultimate disposal.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway
Chairman

c: The Honorable Carolyn L. Huntoon
The Honorable Madelyn R. Creedon
Ms. Laura S. H. Holgate
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.