

**[DNFSB LETTERHEAD]**

July 24, 1992

The Honorable William H. Young  
Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Young:

Your letter to me dated June 19, 1992 provided a progress report on the DOE Study to Strengthen DOE Standards, which study was undertaken as part of DOE's Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 91-1. The letter states that DOE is developing an Action Plan to Strengthen DOE Standards and that this plan will be delivered to the Board on or before August 7, 1992.

The Board would like to be assured that in providing this Action Plan to the Board you will also furnish information which supports the actions the Department intends to take. For example, your letter states that the study referred has as one focus the following;

"Examining resources committed by the Department to the nuclear safety standards development and implementation, including the qualifications background, organization, distribution, and numbers of management and technical personnel"

Thus to evaluate the adequacy of DOE's intended actions the Board will need both qualitative and quantitative information which supports action on these topics.

If such information is not to be provided, we need to be informed promptly.

Sincerely,

***John T. Conway***  
***Chairman***