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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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99-0000612



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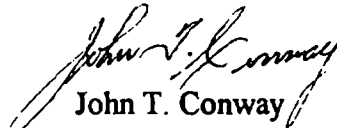
The Honorable Bill Richardson
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585-0104

Dear Secretary Richardson:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has reviewed the recent Department of Energy (DOE) proposal to close the Board's Recommendation 94-4, *Deficiencies in Criticality Safety at the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant*. The proposal cites improvements at Y-12 in overall conduct of operations, criticality safety, and training and qualification resulting from upgrade efforts in response to Recommendation 94-4. Also noted are process improvements and increased efficiencies in meeting Y-12 mission expectations as a result of implementation of Recommendation 94-4.

The Board is encouraged by DOE's implementation of Recommendation 94-4 and agrees that the objectives of the recommendation have been met. The Board wishes to commend DOE and Lockheed Martin Energy Systems personnel involved in effecting the resultant safety improvements at the Y-12 Plant. The Board accepts DOE's proposal to close Recommendation 94-4.

Sincerely,


John T. Conway
Chairman

c: Honorable Victor H. Reis
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.
Mr. Steven D. Richardson