



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

July 25, 1997

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward for your review a copy of the Department of Energy draft Integrated Safety Management System Guide, G 450.4-1. The draft Guide is being distributed formally through the Department of Energy's Directives System for review and comment. It is my expectation that the Guide will be completed and issued for use in October 1997.

I consider the enclosed draft Guide a significant improvement over earlier drafts. Issuance of this draft Guide and determination of a date, by which it will be completed, fulfill Commitment 1.2 of the Department's Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 95-2. It should be useful immediately to facilities and activities as they progress their implementation of integrated safety management systems.

Board and staff reviews of earlier draft versions of the Guide helped to clarify the types and levels of guidance appropriate for the Department's facilities, and are appreciated. If you have any questions concerning the enclosed draft Guide, please contact me at (202) 586-1413.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Crowe".

Richard C. Crowe
Director, Safety Management
Implementation Team

Enclosure

cc:

Mark B. Whitaker,
Departmental Representative to the DNFSB (S-3.1)