



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

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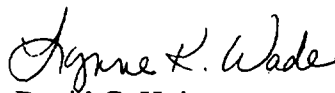
The Honorable John T. Conway  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

With this letter I am pleased to report early completion of one of the commitments found in the Department's 94-1 Implementation Plan. Commitment 701 to complete fuel removal from the CPP-603 South Basin at Idaho was due in December 2000. The closure package for this commitment is enclosed. It documents that the last spent nuclear fuel unit was removed from the South Basin on April 28, 2000. Therefore, we propose closure of this commitment.

We continue to closely track progress on all Recommendation 94-1 commitments and will keep you and your staff apprised of our progress. If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff call me on (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

  
for David G. Huizenga  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Integration and Disposition  
Office of Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc w/ enclosure:  
M. Whitaker, S-3.1

# memorandum

Idaho Operations Office

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Date: May 25, 2000

Subject: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 94-1

- o. David G. Huizenga, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Office of Integration and Disposition, EM-20

- References:
1. Recommendation 94-1 to the Secretary of Energy; May 26, 1994
  2. Implementation Plan for the Remediation of Nuclear Materials in the Defense Nuclear Facilities Complex, Revision 2; January 27, 2000
  3. US District Court of Idaho, Court Order of December 22, 1993, amending the Order of June 28, 1993, Civil No. 91-0035-S-HLR, Civil No. 91-0054-S-HLR, Cecil D. Andrus and the State of Idaho vs the Public Service Company of Colorado and the US Government.

DNFSB Recommendation 94-1 (Reference 1) identified a vulnerability at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) regarding the "deteriorating irradiated reactor fuel from a number of sources" located within three underwater storage basins of the Fuel Receiving and Storage Building, CPP-603.

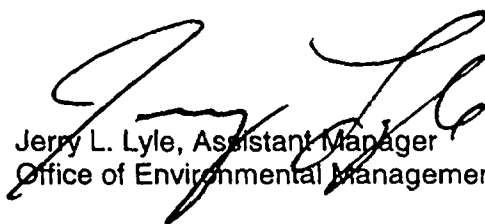
Although not referred to in the nine specific recommendations of Recommendation 94-1, this vulnerability served as an example of DNFSB concerns about fissile and other radioactive materials contained in spent nuclear fuel (SNF) storage pools, reactor basins, reprocessing canyons, and various other facilities once used for processing and weapons manufacture.

Within its SNF section, the DOE Implementation Plan to resolve the DNFSB Recommendation 94-1 concerns (Reference 2) includes the corrective actions and commitments to be taken for the CPP-603 vulnerability.

The DOE Implementation Plan adopted the requirements stipulated in a 1993 Court Order (Reference 3). The Court Order requires the North and Middle Basins of Building CPP-603 be emptied of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) by December 31, 1996 and the South Basin by December 31, 2000. The inventory utilized under the terms of the Court Order showed the SNF occupied a total of 1,340 positions within the three basins.

On April 28, 2000, DOE's Idaho Operations Office oversaw the removal of the last spent nuclear fuel unit from the South Basin of Building CPP-603. This accomplishment completes the final INEEL commitment within the Implementation Plan eight months ahead of schedule. All interim milestones for CPP-603 identified in the Implementation Plan were completed ahead of schedule as identified in the quarterly status reports to DOE-HQ.

All INEEL commitments within the Implementation Plan are, therefore, completed. Questions or concerns may be directed to Mr. Pete Dirkmaat, Director of the INTEC Program Division at 208-526-1439.



Jerry L. Lyle, Assistant Manager  
Office of Environmental Management