



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
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FEB 28 2001

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:

Consistent with the Department's implementation plan (IP) for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 98-2, Revision 1, the following provides information regarding outstanding commitments due through January 2001 and the commitments currently due during February 2001. The Department proposes closure of those commitments indicated as complete.

- Commitment 4.3.1, "DOE-Approved BIO Module on Fire Protection and associated TSR and Develop a resource-loaded schedule for implementation of improved TSR controls for fire protection"—The most recent status of this October commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated January 31, 2001. Enclosed is the DOE-Approved BIO Module and TSR, which represents completion of this commitment with the exception of the implementation plan, which will be provided in March 2001. The additional time for the implementation plan is required to address the final set of controls approved in the safety evaluation report, to address the conditions of approval, and to resolve funding issues.
- Commitment 4.3.3, "DOE-approved BIO Module/TSR for On-Site Transportation and DOE-Approved Implementation Plan for On-site Transportation controls submitted" — This commitment is carried over from 5.6.3#3 within the original IP. The purpose of this commitment is to improve the existing site-wide TSR controls for on-site transportation of nuclear explosives at the Pantex Plant. During the Department's briefing to the Board on December 7, 2000, the following information was provided:
 - This commitment is in jeopardy of not being delivered in February 2001 as identified within the revised IP due to the complexity and level of analysis required to address all weapon configurations.
 - The Department is working with the Pantex Managing & Operating (M&O) contractor to break the On-Site Transportation module into phases by beginning with the full-up module first and then to incorporate the enhanced transportation cart into the partial phase to simplify the weapons response analysis.
 - The full-up module is expected to be complete sometime between May and September 2001.

- Commitment 4.3.5, "Additional DOE-Approved TSR controls derived from the NES Master Studies"— The most recent status of this November commitment was provided to the Board through the Department's letter dated January 31, 2001. Enclosed is the approved additional TSR controls derived from NES Master Studies, which represents completion of this commitment.
- Commitment 4.4.2, "Revisions to DOE Orders 452.1, 452.2, and DOE-STD-3015 issued"— An updated status of this November commitment has been provided directly to the Board through the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application and Stockpile Operations, letter dated February 22, 2001.
- Commitment 4.4.3, "Revisions to Albuquerque Operations Office (ALO) Supplemental Directives 452.1 and 452.2 issued and Impact Analysis and DOE-approved Implementation Plan (as required)"—This commitment is carried over from 5.4.2 and 5.5.1 within the original IP. The purpose of this commitment is for the ALO to issue revisions to its supplemental directives to align with the changes to DOE Orders 452.1, 452.2, and DOE-STD-3015 and invoke applicability of the revised directives through the existing contract structure for the Pantex Plant. The Pantex M&O contractor will then provide an impact analysis and an implementation plan, if warranted, to achieve compliance with the new requirements. Pursuant to the Department's directive process, a supplemental directive cannot be published until the corresponding order has been issued. ALO has pursued changes to its supplemental directive based on draft orders currently in the publication cycle and is in the process of resolving comments received. ALO will publish its corresponding supplemental directives within 30 days following publication of the corresponding DOE Orders.
- Commitment 4.4.5, "Revisions to Nevada Operation Office (NVO) Supplemental Directives 452.1 and 452.2 issued and Impact Analysis and DOE-approved Implementation Plan (as required)"—This commitment is carried over from 5.4.2 and 5.5.1 within the original IP. The purpose of this commitment is for the NVO to issue revisions to the NV Orders to align with the changes to DOE Orders 452.1, 452.2, and DOE-STD-3015 and invoke applicability of the revised directives through the existing contract structure for the Nevada Test Site. The management and operating contractor and the design laboratories will then provide an impact analysis and implementation plan, if warranted, to achieve compliance with the new requirements. Pursuant to the Department's directive process, a supplemental directive cannot be published until the corresponding order has been issued. NVO has pursued changes to its supplemental directive based on draft orders currently in the publication cycle and is in process of resolving comments received. NVO will publish its corresponding supplemental directives within 30 days following publication of the corresponding DOE Orders.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 505-845-6050, or have your staff contact Dan Glenn at 806-477-3182 or Karen Boardman at 505-845-6045.



R. E. Glass
Manager

Enclosures (4)

cc w/enclosure:

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