

**Department of Energy** 

Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

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99-TSD-033

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:

DELAY IN COMPLETING DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD (DNFSB) RECOMMENDATION 93-5 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IP), REVISION 1, MILESTONE 5.4.3.1.D, "APPROVED FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT (FSAR)"

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that submittal of DNFSB Recommendation 93-5 IP, Revision 1, Milestone 5.4.3.1.d, "Approved Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)," is delayed beyond the current target date of January 30, 1999. This date was forwarded in an RL letter from J. D. Wagoner to J. T. Conway, DNFSB, "Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 93-5 Implementation Plan (IP), Revision 1, Milestone 5.4.3.1.D, 'Approved Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)'," 98-TWR-015, dated April 29, 1998. The original milestone completion date was June 30, 1997.

The contractor transmitted the FSAR to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Richland Operations Office (RL) on August 14, 1997. At this time, RL has completed the Tier II and Tier III Review processes. The technical issues have been resolved. However, an administrative issue regarding final approval from the Cognizant Secretarial Officer on the Facility Hazard Categorization needs to be resolved before proceeding with final approval.

RL plans to obtain approval of Facility Hazard Categorization from DOE Headquarters so the approval of the FSAR can be obtained by April 15, 1999. RL still intends to implement Phase I of the FSAR by September 1999.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Steve Wiegman, Office of River Protection, on (509) 372-2536.

Sincerely,

James C. Ha

Acting Manager

TSD:CLS

cc: See Page 2

J. M. Owendoff, EM-1

C. A. Peabody, EM-4

K. T. Lang, EM-38

R. G. Lightner, EM-38 M. B. Whitaker, S-3.1