



96-0000052

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 17, 1996

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DNF SAFETY BOARD

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20044

Dear Chairman Conway:

This letter responds to your letter of October 4, 1995, which requested a revision to the Implementation Plan for Recommendation 93-4 and a reconciliation of several Departmental efforts related to defining environmental, health, and safety roles and responsibilities.

We appreciate your commendation regarding our successful completion of Uranyl Nitrate Hexahydrate processing at Fernald on August 30, 1995. Completion of the Uranyl Nitrate Hexahydrate processing was a major milestone at Fernald, and we hope to maintain our momentum in completing our other pressing remediation efforts there.

As you know, there is a Departmental team working to respond to your Recommendation 95-2, Safety Management, of October 11, 1995. Also, the Department of Energy committed in response to Recommendation 94-5 to revise the FAR Manual by February 1, 1996, or 60 days after issuance of nuclear safety rules. A Departmental Steering Group has been formed to make decisions regarding scope, format, and structure of the revised FAR. The Technical Management Plan (TMP) and Environmental Management Safety and Health Integrated Plan (SHIP) are being reviewed in this effort.

In order for these Departmental efforts to be completed and effectively respond to your letter, I am requesting an extension to March 4, 1996. If you have questions concerning this, please call me or have your staff contact Mr. John Tseng.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Grumbly
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

