

**The Secretary of Energy**

Washington, DC 20585

February 21, 1995

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

Dear Mr. Chairman

This letter responds to your Recommendation 94-5, Integration of DOE Safety Rules, Orders, and Other Requirements, dated December 29, 1994. The Department accepts the Recommendation.

The Department recognizes, as your recommendation generally observes, that DOE expectations in the transition from nuclear safety Orders to rules, and the development of associated implementation plans for Orders, rules, and other necessary and sufficient safety requirements should be effectively communicated and understood. We agree that these initiatives and efforts require effective coordination, integration, and communication as the transition to revised Orders or new rules occurs.

The Department has already embarked on a course of actions that are and will be responsive to your recommendations. For example, we have widely disseminated the Department's response to your May 6, 1994 letter on DOE's Safety Management Program and we are actively monitoring activities to assure consistency with that response. Your general recommendation regarding a smooth and complete transition between Orders and rules largely will be addressed in a Policy Statement on Procedures for Developing, Implementing, and Achieving Compliance with Nuclear Safety Requirements currently in development by the Office of General Counsel, a draft of which has been furnished to you.

The Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health, in conjunction with the Office of General Counsel and Cognizant Program Offices, will develop the Department's Implementation Plan for this Recommendation in accordance with 42 USC 2286d.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hazel R. O'Leary".

Hazel R. O'Leary