



Department of Energy

Albuquerque Operations Office
P.O. Box 5400
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June 03, 1999

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 (98-2 Plan) for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB) Recommendation 98-2, the following commitment deliverable is enclosed.

The transition of Critical Safety System Manuals to Technical Safety Requirements (TSR) has been executed in accordance with step one of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB) Recommendation 98-2, Commitment 5.6.3. Attachment 1 is the approval letter for the TSRs for Pantex Facilities and the Evaluation Report developed by the Department of Energy (DOE) Review Team. Attachment 2 is a copy of the TSR.

At this time, we do not consider that the first deliverable under Commitment 5.6.3 has been fully satisfied. You will note that our approval letter and the Review Team Evaluation Report identify a number of issues that require resolution through follow-on actions, including implementation of the TSR. We view approval of the TSR as the first major step in improving the quality of operational controls at Pantex and in achieving consistency of approach with other DOE nuclear facilities. However, until such time that all of the issues have been resolved and the TSR fully implemented, we do not believe the intent of commitment 5.6.3 has been fulfilled.

The Amarillo Area Office is working with Mason & Hanger Corporation to develop an acceptable plan for implementation of the TSR and to develop a path forward to address the remaining technical issues. DOE will keep the DNFSB informed of progress towards full TSR implementation. If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Dan Glenn at 505-665-6028.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R E Glass".

R. E. Glass
Manager

Attachments

Cc w/attachments: (See page 2)

The Honorable John T. Conway

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Cc w/ attachments:

J. McConnell, DNFSB

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