

John T. Conway, Chairman  
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## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20004-2901  
(202) 694-7000



February 2, 2005

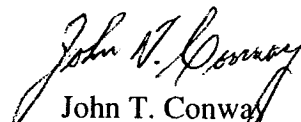
Mr. Donald W. Brown  
1952 42<sup>nd</sup> Street "G"  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your electronic mail dated December 21, 2004, which forwarded your work entitled, "White Paper on Impediments to Quality at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)." As you are aware, the Board has exercised jurisdiction over Quality Assurance issues across the Department of Energy's defense nuclear facilities. The information you forwarded will be considered in the Board's review of LANL's Operational Efficiency Project, which includes Quality Assurance at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

In your electronic mail, you stated that you are a contract employee to the University of California and have already experienced reprisal for having written your white paper. The Board's jurisdiction does not extend to investigating, adjudicating, or remediating alleged retaliations proscribed under federal law. Congress has placed that jurisdiction elsewhere. If you feel that you are experiencing retaliation, you should contact the Employee Concerns Program at the Department of Energy Albuquerque Service Center.

Sincerely,

  
John T. Conway  
Chairman