

**[DNFSB LETTERHEAD]**

November 1, 1995

The Honorable Hazel R. O'Leary  
Secretary of Energy  
Washington, D. C. 20585

Dear Secretary O'Leary:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has reviewed the Department of Energy's (DOE) Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 95-1, *Improved Safety of Cylinders Containing Depleted Uranium*, dated October 16, 1995.

The Board is encouraged by the numerous activities under way to address severely degraded cylinders and those cylinders stored under conditions that could lead to high deterioration rates. As the Board noted in the subject recommendation, timely action is required to plan and institute remedial actions to ensure that major problems do not occur in the future. DOE's program that includes renewal of cylinder coatings, investigation of other measure to protect cylinders, and full evaluation of cylinder storage hazards adequately addresses the Board's concerns.

The Board accepts the submitted Implementation Plan for Recommendation 95-1 and looks forward to an aggressive program schedule. The Board will continue to closely follow DOE's progress in the implementation of Recommendation 95-1.

Sincerely,

***John T. Conway***  
Chairman

c: Mr. Terry R. Lash  
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker