



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

February 28, 1997

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:

In the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Implementation Plan, Revision I, for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 94-2, commitments VI.B.5, VI.B.6, and VI.B.7 are to issue the essential requirements for managing low-level waste (LLW), implementation guidance for managing LLW, and improved radiological assessment review and approval process. Additionally, at the Board's September 1995 Public Meeting, Under Secretary Grumbly, at the time Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, committed that a draft revised DOE Radioactive Waste Management Order would be available for review by February 28, 1997.

Enclosed are the draft Order, LLW and General Requirements chapters of the draft Manual, and associated sections of draft guidance which meet the above referenced commitments under DOE's Implementation Plan for Recommendation 94-2. Additionally, the High-Level Waste and Transuranic Waste chapters of the draft manual, associated draft guidance, and draft technical basis documentation are being provided to your staff. These documents are being submitted to the DOE Directives System Manager for a formal 60-day Departmental review and comment period. Any detailed comments on the draft Order or associated guidance which you or your staff may provide will be addressed along with Departmental comments during this review and comment period.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Mark Frei, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management, at (202) 586-0370.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alvin L. Alm".

Alvin L. Alm
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc: M. Whitaker, S-3.1

