



**Department of Energy**  
**National Nuclear Security Administration**  
Washington, DC 20585

April 20, 2001

The Honorable John T. Conway  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, NW.  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On March 5, 2001, you expressed concerns to the Department of Energy about our progress toward getting an Enhanced Transportation Cart (ETC) into the workplace. Additionally, you urged us to revise the plan to expedite the design, procurement and delivery of the ETC to meet the intent of Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 98-2.

We acknowledge that the document submitted to the Board falls short of meeting desired results. The successor to the contractor who prepared the original document has been directed to recommend revisions to shorten the time required to complete the ETC project. We will provide a status with new milestones in the next Recommendation 98-2 brief on April 26, 2001, and integrate the revised plan into the Integrated Weapons Activity Plan to be provided in July 2001. We expect to provide the revised plan in May.

The enclosed white paper discussing the ETC project is forwarded for your information. If after consideration you have any questions concerning the complexities of the project, please contact me or have your staff contact Mr. David E. Beck at 202-586-4879 or Mr. Jeff Underwood at 301-903-8303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas F. Gioconda".

THOMAS F. GIOCONDA  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Acting Deputy Administrator  
for Defense Programs

Enclosure

cc w/out enclosure:  
M. Whitaker, S-3.1

