



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

November 21, 2002

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On October 3, 2002, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board issued recommendation 2002-2, *Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex*. The Department agrees that providing the defense nuclear complex with appropriate support is an essential priority. The Department will require additional time to evaluate your recommended changes.

In accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 2286d(b)(1), the Department requests an additional 45 days to respond to this recommendation. If the extension is granted, I will provide my response no later than January 8, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spencer Abraham".

Spencer Abraham

