



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

April 30, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to notify you, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2286d(e), that the Department of Energy will require up to an additional 45 days to transmit the implementation plan for addressing the issues raised in the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (Board) Recommendation 2002-2, *Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex*. A draft implementation plan has been prepared and shared with your staff but requires additional time to finalize.

Please contact me, or have your staff contact Ms. Karen Boardman, Sandia Site Office Manager at (505) 845-5690 or Martin Schoenbauer, NA-122 at (301) 903-3489 if you have any questions regarding the implementation plan.

We appreciate the advice and feedback provided by the Board and its staff during the development of this plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spencer Abraham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Spencer" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Abraham".

Spencer Abraham

