



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 24, 2003

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004-2091

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to inform you that Commitment 115 of Revision 2 to the *Implementation Plan for Stabilization and Storage of Nuclear Material* for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2000-1 (July 2002) has been completed.

Commitment 115 requires the completion of stabilization and packaging of polycubes, which was completed on February 28, 2003. If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 586-7709 or Mr. Paul Golan, Chief Operating Officer, at (202) 586-0738.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jessie Hill Roberson".

Jessie Hill Roberson
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc: Mark Whitaker, S-3.1
Keith Klein, RL



United States Government

Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office

memorandum

DATE: **MAR 5 2003**REPLY TO
ATTN OF: PTD:AKW/03-PTD-0060SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY
BOARD RECOMMENDATION 2000-1: MILESTONE NUMBER 115 - POLYUCUBESTO: Jessie Hill Roberson, Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Management, EM-1, HQ

The purpose of this memorandum is to report completion of 2000-1 Implementation Plan Milestone 115, titled, "Complete Stabilization and Packaging of Polycubes," due March 31, 2003. The Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) completed packaging on February 28, 2003.

To complete this milestone, approximately 260 items were stabilized and the resulting oxides were packaged into DOE-STD-3013 containers. Polycubes were a unique form of material that posed significant challenges, including high radiation dose fields and gas generation during storage. PFP developed a complicated char cycle, modified equipment, and used special tools to handle the material. Completion of polycube stabilization and packaging represents substantial risk reduction. The DOE Richland Operations Office (RL) continues to work with the Savannah River Site (SRS) to ensure that the material is in compliance with the SRS Material Acceptance Criteria. Additionally, RL will be performing a detailed review of the stabilization and packaging of polycubes documentation per our contract and performance agreement. No discrepancies are anticipated, but we will notify you if any are found.

Please forward this notification to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. If there are any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact George Sanders, Acting Assistant Manager for the Central Plateau, on (509) 373-9971.



Keith A. Klein
Manager

cc: M. W. Frei, EM-40
P. M. Golan, EM-3
G. W. Jackson, FHI
L. M. Morgan, NRE
J. E. Newson, EM-43
S. M. Sax, WSMS
M. B. Whitaker, S-3.1