



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

October 31, 2003

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004-2941

Dear Mr. Chairman:

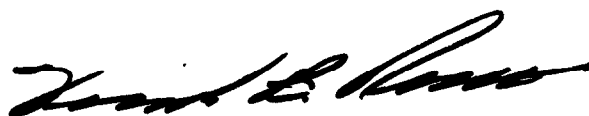
The Implementation Plan for Software Quality Assurance (SQA) in response to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2002-1 requires the Office of Environment, Safety and Health (EH) to establish a schedule to develop, revise, approve, and issue software quality assurance directives per commitment 4.3.2.1. At the present time, it is envisioned that the Department of Energy (DOE) Order 414.1A will be revised to include an attachment to address SQA requirements. EH will also publish a guide that addresses in more detail, the acceptable methods for conducting SQA within the Department that incorporates the best practices from existing industry standards. If it is determined during the directive development process that it may be appropriate to put SQA requirements in a separate order, then we will keep you informed of the changes.

The schedule for revising DOE Order 414.1A to incorporate SQA requirements is December 31, 2004. This schedule will allow incorporation of the lessons learned from the field assessments of SQA and provide sufficient time to establish the requirements with the line organizations within the Department. The SQA guide will be published in 60 days following approval of the Order revision. The attached list of DOE Directives will be updated following the revision to DOE Order 414.1A in accordance with an expedited administrative update. We expect that the DNFSB will be actively involved in the directive development process. If information becomes available from the sites that SQA guidance is urgently needed, then the directives process will be accelerated to the extent practical.



The development of order revision and supporting guidance involves a significant effort and coordination. Please contact Chip Lagdon at (301) 903-4218 or me at (301) 903-8008 if you have any questions concerning this commitment.

Sincerely,



Frank B. Russo
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Corporate Performance Assessment

Attachment

cc:

Beverly A. Cook, EH-1

Mark B. Whitaker, DR-1

Chip Lagdon, EH-31

SQA DIRECTIVE SCHEDULE

1st Priority Directives	Nuclear Facility Safety Software Directive Topic and Proposed Changes	Final Issue Target Date
DOE O 414.1A Attachment 3 (proposed)	Quality Assurance - Add new outcome-based requirements in an attachment for broad applicability to nuclear facility safety software.	12/04
DOE G 414.1-3 (proposed)	QA Guide for Safety Software – new guide to support new QA Order attachment, address other documents in development for the implementation plan (e.g., Safety Software Standards Report).	2/05
DOE O 420.1	Facility Safety – Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
DOE G 420.1-1 & G 420.1-2	Facility Safety - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
DOE G 421.1-1	DOE Good Practices Guide - Criticality Safety Good Practices Program Guide for DOE Nonreactor Nuclear Facilities. - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
DOE G 421.1-2	Safety Analysis Guide for 10 CFR 830 Subpart B - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
DOE STD 3009	Safety Analysis Guidance - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
DOE O 5480.30	Nuclear Reactor Safety Design Criteria - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05
Follow-on Priority	Directives to Reference Order O 414.1 or O 420.1 (recommended to be revised in normal update cycle or date shown)	Final Issue Target Date
DOE G 414.1-1A	Management and Independent Assessment Guide - refer to standards and add link to Safety Software directives.	6/05 (est)
DOE G 441.1-1A	RADIATION PROTECTION PROGRAMS GUIDE for 10 CFR Part 835, Occupational Radiation Protection - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05 (est)
DOE G 200.1-1	Software Engineering Methodology - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05 (est)
DOE O 200.1	Info Management - Update references to new QA Order requirements and guide.	6/05 (est)
NOTE	Other directives may be identified for updates to include the new QA Order requirements and guide.	