



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

March 25, 2004

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 letter provides you the status of our efforts to update the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Site Office Functions, Responsibilities and Authorities Manuals (FRAMs) and to respond to the associated Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) reporting requirement of December 8, 2003. As directed, the site offices submitted their FRAMs in February 2004 for our review and approval. We are currently reviewing these FRAMs to ensure that they complement the NNSA Headquarters (HQs) FRAM and that they include software quality assurance responsibilities as committed in the implementation plans for DNFSB Recommendation 2002-1.

In order to respond to the DNFSB reporting requirement of December 8, 2003, we have formed an NNSA team to develop and implement a plan and schedule for revising, as necessary, safety-related orders, standards, supplemental directives, and site office procedures to reflect the roles and responsibilities outlined in the HQs and Site Office FRAMs. We expect to provide you the plan, schedule and approved Site Office FRAMs by May 28, 2004.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Rabi Singh at (301) 903-5864.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Everett H. Beckner".

Everett H. Beckner  
Deputy Administrator  
for Defense Programs

cc  
T Przybylek, NA-1  
M Whitaker, DR-1

