



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

January 12, 2005

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In my October 7, 2004, letter to you, I explained that the results of the independent Leakpath factor analysis for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's (LLNL) draft Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) were significantly higher than expected. Because of these results, the Livermore Site Office (LSO) directed LLNL to revise the draft Building 332 DSA and Technical Safety Requirements (TSR) to retain the portions of safety systems that preserve the active ventilation systems as safety class by January 15, 2005.

There are now numerous safety priorities converging upon the Nuclear Materials Technology Program (NMTP) at LLNL. These priorities include revising the draft Building 332 DSA and TSRs, implementing a robust configuration management program, and responding to the draft results from the Department of Energy Office of Independent Oversight and Assessment's October 2004 Environmental, Safety and Health inspection.

Because of these competing, highly complex issues, LSO is working with LLNL to determine the most expeditious path forward to address these safety-related priorities. We will complete a path forward early in 2005. LLNL will not meet the January 15, 2005 date. A revised due date will be established once LSO and LLNL have established a path forward on B332 priorities.

NNSA is committed to working with LLNL to expeditiously complete the B332 DSA.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Linton F. Brooks
Administrator

Cy M. Whitaker

