

A.J. Eggenberger, Chairman
John E. Mansfield
Joseph F. Bader
Larry W. Brown
Peter S. Winokur

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20004-2901
(202) 694-7000



November 21, 2006

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Bodman:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) received your letter of October 12, 2006, enclosing the revised Implementation Plan (IP) for the Board's Recommendation 2004-1, *Oversight of Complex, High-Hazard Nuclear Operations*. The Board has reviewed the IP and finds it to be responsive to the Recommendation.

The Board would also like to take this opportunity to close Recommendation 95-2, *Safety Management*. The Recommendation 2004-1 IP and the recently issued Department of Energy (DOE) Manual 450.4-1, *Integrated Safety Management System Manual*, contain the actions necessary to reinvigorate Integrated Safety Management (ISM). In addition, DOE has taken an especially important step toward reinvigorating ISM by creating an ISM Champions Council, chaired by a DOE-wide ISM Champion appointed by the Deputy Secretary. This council is chartered not only to support line management, but also to act as a catalyst for furthering ISM implementation throughout the DOE complex. Should DOE fully support the actions of the council as identified in DOE Manual 450.4-1 and complete the actions of the IP for Recommendation 2004-1, the objectives of Recommendation 95-2 should be implemented as effectively as first envisioned by the Board.

The Board's staff will continue to maintain close contact with DOE representatives to follow progress toward implementing Recommendation 2004-1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. J. Eggenberger".

A. J. Eggenberger
Chairman

c: The Honorable J. Clay Sell
The Honorable Linton Brooks
The Honorable James A. Rispoli
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.