

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD HEARING

Office of Independent Oversight
and Performance Assurance



October 21, 2003



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Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance

Role of Independent Oversight

- Direct Report to the Secretary of Energy
- Oversight for both NNSA and ESE
- DOE's Corporate Oversight Entity
- Provides Independent Performance-Based Evaluations
- Well-Established Inspection Processes



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Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance

OA's Technical Competence

- Dedicated Team of Experienced Inspectors
- Extensive Managerial and Technical Expertise
- Technical Qualification Program and External Certifications

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Some Key Inspection Focus Areas

- ISM Programs
- Safety Systems
- The Unreviewed Safety Question Requirements

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DOE Line Management Safety Oversight and Contractor Assurance Programs

- OA is DOE's Corporate Oversight Entity Conducting Independent Evaluations of Both the Effectiveness of DOE Line and Contractor Oversight and Safety Performance
- Historical Perspectives
- Current Status

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Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance

Summary

- Well established oversight processes conducted by a team of highly experienced professionals.
- ISM has resulted in improved safety performance, but improvements are needed in a number of areas.
- DOE and contractor safety oversight is improving but not yet sufficiently rigorous.

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