

**Department of Energy**Washington, DC 20585
November 24, 200477
11/24/04
11:09

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to inform you that Commitment 121 of Revision 2 to the *Implementation Plan for Stabilization and Storage of Nuclear Material* for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2000-1 (July 2002) is complete. This commitment required the selection of a treatment process for the containerized K-West Basin sludge. Selection of the treatment process was completed on November 15, 2004.

The selected treatment process will oxidize any metallic uranium in the sludge prior to grouting the sludge into a final waste form. The resultant waste will provide for safer interim storage of the sludge waste until an off-site disposal facility is available to accept these wastes.

If you have any further questions concerning these issues, please call Dr. Inés Triay, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, at (202) 586-0738 or Keith Klein, Manager, Richland Operations Office, at (509) 376-7395.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Golan".

Paul M. Golan
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

cc: Inés Triay, EM-3
M. Whitaker, DR-1
K. Klein, RL

