

Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration

Washington, DC 20585

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October 14, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Chairman,

An NA-12 memorandum dated March 25, 2004 provided a plan for issuance of certain nuclear explosive surety directives. This memorandum provides an updated plan for issuance of the following directives.

Both DOE-STD-3015, Nuclear Explosive Safety Evaluation Process and Development and Production Manual, Chapter 11.7, Nuclear Explosive Operation Change Control *Process* are currently under review by the DNFSB staff with an anticipated publishing date of October 31, 2004.

DOE-STD-3016 was sent to the field for review in early June. Further action is on hold pending a meeting in late October to discuss D&P Manual chapters 11.4 and 11.8. Our plan anticipates submitting this for publishing by March 31, 2005.

Both DOE O 452.1, Nuclear Explosive and Weapon Surety Program, and DOE O 452.2, Safety of Nuclear Explosive Operations, are dependent upon DOE-STD-3015 being published and will require processing through the REVCOM process due to extensive modification. The current plan is to initiate REVCOM on November 1, 2004 and to complete the comment resolution process by mid-January 2005. The plan anticipates submitting these documents for publishing on January 31, 2005.

Sincerely,

M. Schoenbauer

Acting Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application

and Stockpile Operations

Defense Programs

cc; E. Beckner, NA-10

