



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Honorable John T. Conway  
 Chairman  
 Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
 625 Indiana Avenue, NW  
 Suite 700  
 Washington, DC 20004-2091

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a status of two EM commitments identified in the Department's Software Quality Assurance (SQA) implementation plan of March 13, 2003. This plan is in response to Board recommendation 2002-1, *Quality Assurance for Safety Software at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities*.

**Commitment 4.1.4:** Personnel assigned to SQA positions achieve qualification per the requirements of the Technical Qualification Program (TQP).

**Deliverable:** TQP Status Report that includes the identification of at least one qualified SQA position for each organization that requires qualified personnel.

**Due Date:** September 2004

**Status:** Each EM non-closure site has identified a SQA position/person that requires qualification to the TQP or elected to use a qualified SQA Subject Matter Expert (SME) from another site until such person is qualified (see enclosure). The enclosure also is an update of the identified Federal Software Quality Assurance Personnel listing provided in my letter of January 29, 2004. Qualification cards and supporting documentation are available at the site offices for each SQA SME. The EM closure sites offices (Rocky Flats and Ohio) will not maintain a fully qualified SME; SQA services will be provided by qualified personnel as needed.

The EM portion of this commitment is scheduled for completion by November 10, 2004.

**Commitment No. 4.2.4.3:** Complete the assessment of the processes in place to ensure that safety software currently used to support the analysis and design of defense nuclear facilities is adequate.

**Deliverable:** Reports to the PSO indicating the results of the assessments, any concerns with the quality of existing codes, and the actions necessary to address the concerns.



**Due Date:** In accordance with the schedules established in commitment 4.2.4.2, which states "Establish a schedule to complete the assessment of the processes in place to ensure that safety software currently used to support the analysis and design of defense nuclear facilities is adequate." These schedules were established in my January 29, 2004, letter to you.

**Status:** The EM sites have completed the SQA assessments and submitted the reports to the PSO. In addition, assessments concerning EM activities at Idaho and Oak Ridge have been provided to the Board staff. The EM portion of this commitment is substantially complete. For Oak Ridge, SQA assessments have been performed on two software codes and additional assessments are scheduled to be completed by December 2004. EM will provide copies of these additional assessments to the Board staff upon completion.

EM Headquarters with support from the Office of Environmental Safety and Health are currently reviewing the SQA reports for lessons learned. Each site is taking actions to address the finding, concerns, and observations identified in the reports. The SQA Assessment Reports were provided to your staff, Mr. Robert Quirk.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Patrice Bubar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Integrated Safety Management and Operations Oversight, at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,



Dr. Inés Triay  
Deputy Chief Operating Officer  
Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc: Patrice Bubar, EM-3.2  
Mark Whitaker, DR-1  
John S. Shaw, EH-1

**Office of Environmental Management**  
**Software Quality Assurance Implementation Plan Commitment No. 4.1.4**  
**Federal Software Quality Assurance Personnel**

September 30, 2004

<b>EM Headquarters</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
EM-3.2 Office of ISM/Operations Oversight	Larry Vaughan	Not Qualified	EM Management determined that a HQ person (TBD) will become qualified. Until then EM HQ will use a SQA SME from EH-31.
<b>Field Element</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Carlsbad Field Office	Ava Holland	Qualified	
Office of River Protection	Sam Vega	Not Qualified	Mr. Vega is not qualified, but is expected to be qualified this calendar year. ORP will use Mr. Clifford Ashley in the interim until Mr. Vega is qualified to provide SQA services.
Ohio Field Office	John Orrison	Not Qualified	Mr. Orrison has extensive educational and work experience; however, the Ohio site will not maintain formal qualification of Mr. Orrison. Ohio expects to eventually use the Consolidated Business Center Technical Cadre.
Richland Operations Office	Shivaji Seth Clifford Ashley	Qualified	Both are qualified. Mr. Ashley serves as the primary point of contact.
Portsmouth/Paducah Field Office	Jack Zimmerman	Not Qualified	Mr. Zimmerman is not qualified. PPPO will use Teresa Perry in the interim to provide SQA services until Mr. Zimmerman is qualified. Qualification is expected this calendar year.
Rocky Flats Field Office	Kent Grover	Not Qualified	Mr. Grover is not qualified. Management has determined that the site will not maintain a qualified SQA SME due to the reduced number of SQA issues and the limited remaining life of the systems. Rocky Flats will use Cliff Ashley due to site closure/schedule activities to provide SQA services.
Savannah River Operations Office	Chris Upshaw Gregg Nelson	Not Qualified	Mr. Upshaw and Mr. Nelson are not qualified. Savannah River will use Mr. Clifford Ashley in the interim until Mr. Upshaw and Mr. Nelson are qualified. Qualification is expected this calendar year.
Idaho Operations Office	Robert Blyth	Qualified	
Oak Ridge Operations Office	Teresa Perry	Qualified	

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