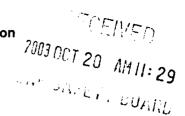


Department of Energy

National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

October 16, 2003



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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In my letter of July 14, 2003, I enclosed copies of memoranda from all National Nuclear Security Administration Site Offices, except Nevada Site Office, acknowledging that they have programs in place to evaluate quality assurance as part of their integrated assessment process consistent with Department of Energy (DOE) Policy 450.5 and DOE Order 414.1. We have now received the Nevada Site Office memorandum which is enclosed for your information. We consider Quality Assurance Improvement Plan Action 3.2.1 to be complete.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Rabi Singh at (301) 903-5864.

Sincerely.

For Everet H. Beckner
Deputy Administrator
for Defense Programs

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure L. Brooks, NA-1 M. Whitaker, DR-1 J. Mangeno, NA-3.6



Department of Energy

National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office P.O. Box 98518 Las Vegas, NV 89193-8518

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Everet H. Beckner, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, NNSA/HQ (NA-10) FORS

EVALUATION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) PROGRAMS FOR THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NEVADA SITE OFFICE (NNSA/NSO)

In accordance with Action 3.2.1 of the Quality Assurance Improvement Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities dated October 21, 2002, the NNSA/NSO has completed the subject action. An NNSA/NSO Quality Assurance program review was conducted on NNSA/NSO and Bechtel Nevada (BN) during the time period of July 28 through August 7, 2003. This review verified that the NNSA/NSO and BN generally meet the QA requirements provided in the DOE O 414.1A and 10 C.F.R. 830 Subpart A. The review team identified a number of NNSA/NSO and BN QA issues requiring corrective actions. NNSA/NSO and BN are developing corrective action plans to address these identified issues.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (702) 295-3211 or my point of contact, John M. Sanchez, at (702) 295-1083 or sanchez@nv.doe.gov.

Kathleen A. Carlson

Manager

PAD:JMS-3035 AOM 04-01

CC:

Xavier Ascanio, NNSA/HQ (NA-124) GTN

D. H. Crandall, NNSA/HQ (NA-11) FORS

R. J. Hardwick, NNSA/HQ (NA-124) FORS

R. N. Singh, NNSA/HQ (NA-124) GTN

F. A. Tarantino, BN, Las Vegas, NV