



Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
 P.O. Box 2001
 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 18, 1997

RECEIVED
 97 JUL 21 PM 2:37
 DNF SAFETY BOARD

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

Dear Mr. Conway,

RECENT WELDING AND CUTTING FATALITY AT THE K-25 SITE IN OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

On February 13, 1997, a tragic welding and cutting fatality occurred in Oak Ridge at the K-33 Building, East Tennessee Technology Park (formerly called the K-25 Site). The worker, who was a welder employed by Lockheed Martin Energy Systems, Inc., suffered fatal burns when his personal protective clothing caught fire while using a cutting torch. As you may know, a Department of Energy Type A Accident Investigation Board was formed and issued a final report on the accident on April 22, 1997.

One of the many corrective actions we have taken as a result of this tragedy was to produce a lessons learned video tape (enclosed). We are using the tape to make presentations around the Department. The tape is very candid and reinforces the need for an integrated approach to safety. I also believe the tape leaves a lasting personal impression concerning the human side of this tragedy and its impact on family, friends, and coworkers.

If you or other Board members would like further information, or perhaps a presentation on the lessons learned, please contact me at (423) 576-4444.

Sincerely,

 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Hall".

James C. Hall
 Manager

Enclosure

cc w/o enclosure:

Mark Whitaker, S3.1, HQ/FORS
 Al Alm, EM-1, HQ/FORS
 Terry Lash, NE-1, HQ/FORS
 Tara O'Toole, EH-1, HQ/FORS
 Bob Poe, SE-30, ORO
 Joe Parks, EF-20, ORO
 Rod Nelson, EW-90, ORO