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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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November 12, 1997

The Honorable Federico F. Peña
Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585-1000

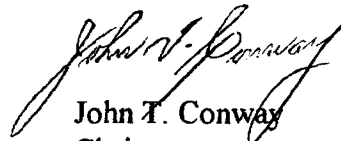
Dear Secretary Peña:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has reviewed your revised implementation plan for Recommendation 92-4 and has determined that it provides a framework for achieving the needed improvements in systems engineering of the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) at the Hanford Site.

The Board especially recognizes the value of the TWRS Program Logic as described in the plan and as briefed to the Board by representatives of the Department of Energy-Richland Field Office. The Board views this logic as fundamental to the sound systems engineering management of the project. The logic is described in the plan; however, there is no direct commitment to ensure its continued existence and use. Therefore, the Board requests that updates on the TWRS Program Logic, including a description of its maturation, be included in the semiannual briefs to the Board committed to in the plan.

The Board wishes to commend those responsible for the development of the plan and looks forward to its successful implementation.

Sincerely,


John T. Conway
Chairman