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Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

[APR 28 1994]

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the second quarterly status report for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 93-4 Implementation Plan (IP). This report is being provided to you in accordance with the Department of Energy (DOE) Initiative 1 as identified in the accepted DNFSB Recommendation 93-4 IP. Three of the identified actions have been completed as scheduled and other actions have been rescheduled, following discussions with your staff.

As indicated in the enclosed report, the deliverables corresponding to the generic Technical Management Plan (TMP) and the Fernald TMP were transmitted to your staff as scheduled in December 1993. Additionally, the draft Hanford TMP was provided to your staff in January 1994. In meetings held with your staff on January 31, 1994, and February 17, 1994, your staff pointed out that the draft generic and Fernald TMPs (and the latter Richland TMP) lacked some of the features specified in the Recommendation and would not be useful as overall guidance for DOE operations office personnel in exercising their technical management responsibilities. To address these problems, a new approach was planned to revise the TMPs. This approach included establishing a Task Force consisting of the Fernald Field Office, the Richland Operations Office, and various Headquarters personnel to perform this activity. Additionally, a new schedule was developed in order to adequately address the problems and revise the TMPs. The generic TMP is scheduled to be submitted to you in final by May 30, 1994; the Fernald TMP is scheduled for submittal on or before July 31, 1994; and the Richland TMP is scheduled for submittal by June 30, 1994, prior to the startup of their environmental restoration contractor.

Other milestones connected to the revision and resubmittal of the TMPs have also been rescheduled. The activity to identify qualified key personnel at the DOE Fernald Field Office and Headquarters was originally completed in December 1993 with the TMP; however, due to this activity being an integral part of the revised TMPs, it has been rescheduled to be completed by May 30, 1994, for the Headquarters portion to correspond with the submittal of the generic TMP, and July 31, 1994, for completion of

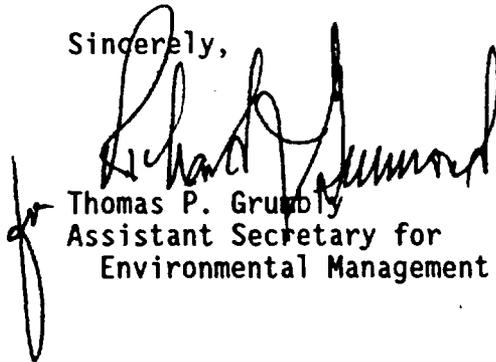
the Fernald portion to correspond to the submittal of the Fernald TMP. Additionally, the activity to assess initial compliance of Fernald with their TMP originally scheduled for March 30, 1994, has been rescheduled to take place September 1994, 2 months after the revised Fernald TMP has been in place. The milestone activity to present the completed TMPs to the Secretary's Contract Reform Committee and to the DOE Order 4700.1 Rewrite Committee was also rescheduled to correspond with the revision of the TMPs. Plans are still underway to present the TMPs upon their completion to the two committees.

On February 1 and 2, 1994, your staff was briefed on schedules related to the Uranyl Nitrate Hexahydrate Operational Readiness Review (ORR). The ORR Plan of Action, which is the deliverable associated with the restart procedure milestone, is currently in its second revision and is at DOE Headquarters for review. Once we have finalized the Plan for the ORR, we will provide to you a new milestone date for submittal of the restart procedure.

Also enclosed is a copy of the "Safe Configuration Assessment of the UNH Tank System Final Report," which was provided to your staff informally at the February 1, 1994, meeting at the Fernald Field Office, and a copy of the "Fernald Facility Representative Program and Training and Qualification Documents." These reports close out item number 934.E.2.b, Tank Integrity Study, and item number 934.F.2.b, Fernald Facility Representative Program and training qualification procedure, in the Recommendation 93-4 IP, respectively.

As specified in the 93-4 IP, the Department will continue to keep the Board apprised of our progress by providing future quarterly status reports and by providing the documentation associated with the deliverables for each action specified in the Plan.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Grubbly
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

3 Enclosures

cc:

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