



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

April 30, 2004

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004-2941

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Former Assistant Secretary Beverly A. Cook provided letters to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) dated September 5, 2003, December 15, 2003, and March 1, 2004, regarding the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposed revision to the *DOE Handbook: Electrical Safety* (DOE-HDBK-1092-98). In the March 1, 2004, letter DOE provided you with revised Chapters 1-8 of the Handbook and committed to provide you a fully revised Handbook for review, including a new chapter on electrical safety guidance for underground utility and excavation activities and enhanced chapter(s) on electrical safety for research and development, by April 2004. The purpose of this letter is to provide the DNFSB with a draft of the fully revised Handbook for your review.

As noted in the letter dated December 15, 2003, a DOE Electrical Safety Group was formed and chartered to provide a comprehensive review of the Handbook. This group was instrumental in revising the Handbook and we are pleased with their work and efforts. We invited and coordinated these activities with your staff to ensure their concerns and issues were addressed.

Your staff should complete its review of this Handbook and provide comments to DOE. We will work with your staff to resolve their comments before we issue the revised Handbook for DOE interim use and comment through the DOE Technical Standards Program.

If you have any questions, please call me at 202-586-4693 or your staff may contact Richard Black at 301-903-0078.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. Hardwick, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Raymond J. Hardwick, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office for Facility Safety
Environment, Safety and Health

Enclosure



Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

cc:

M. Whitaker, DR-1

E. Beckner, NA-10

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