



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 4, 2005

The Honorable John T. Conway
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to complete the requests contained in your January 18, 2005, letter. The requested report is enclosed that describes the Tank Farm contractor activities implementing the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP), planned approach for the long-term management of double-shell tanks and tank waste retrieval. The report has been reviewed by my staff and the ORP and is acceptable in delineating the planned approach. An ORP implementation plan is being finalized and will be provided by ORP later this month to the Board.

The second requested deliverable was provided by the ORP in a briefing to the Board on February 28, 2005. The briefing provided a status of the implementation of the ORP Waste Chemistry Expert Panel's recommendations. The Expert Panel will continue to be used at ORP to provide ideas and periodic reviews.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 586-7709 or Mr. Roy Schepens, Manager, ORP, at (509) 376-6677, or your staff may contact Mr. James Poppiti, Licensing Office, at (301) 903-1733 or Mr. Dana Bryson, ORP Tank Farms Engineering Division, at (509) 372-0947.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Golan
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

Enclosure

Long Term Management of
Tank Waste at Hanford

cc w/enclosure:
M. Whitaker, DR-1
R. J. Schepens, ORP

