Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

August 1, 2006

The Honorable A. J. Eggenberger
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you information under Deliverable 8.6.2 of the Implementation Plan (Rev. 1, July 2006) for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2004-2, *Active Confinement Systems*. This deliverable required that the Department of Energy (DOE) establish an Independent Review Panel (IRP) as described in the Ventilation System Evaluation Guidance document that we provided you on February 2, 2006, as Deliverables 8.5.4 and 8.7. The IRP will assist and consult with the site/facility evaluation teams, review select facility evaluations, and provide feedback to the DNFSB 2004-2 Core Team. The IRP members include the following DOE representatives:

Dr. Robert C. Nelson, ORP/EM
James Low, NNSA Service Center
Jacquelyn Carrozza, ID
Teresa Robbins, Y-12
Dr. Richard Englehart, EH

The IRP will independently assist on the confinement system evaluations of the DOE pilot facilities. Conference calls have been held to discuss issues and review preliminary results of the evaluations. Outside consultants are retained as subject matter experts to aid the IRP.

We will keep your staff apprised of these conference calls. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 903-0104.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Black

Richard Black
Director
Office of Nuclear and Facility Safety Policy

cc:
M. Whitaker, DR-1