

John T. Conway, Chairman
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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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September 21, 2000

The Honorable Ernest J. Moniz
Under Secretary of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

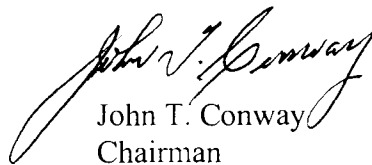
Dear Dr. Moniz:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) wishes to thank you for your support of a notable accomplishment by the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science and Technology that will be helpful in solving safety problems.

A Vadose Zone Project Team, sponsored by the Office of Science and Technology recently compiled an authoritative work on the science of vadose zones (unsaturated soil zones), a topic of great significance for sites with environmental contamination. This 1500-page, two-volume set, *Vadose Zone: Science and Technology Solutions*, published by Battelle Press, appears to encompass virtually all that is known about the vadose zone and its ability to store and transport water and contaminants to the water table. The compendium addresses techniques for sampling, monitoring, and remediating the vadose zone, and presents numerous case studies, many of which are from DOE sites. It also includes a CD-ROM disk that provides impressive search capabilities for the entire text.

The Board considers this work a most valuable resource and has added it to our technical library for use by our staff.

Sincerely,


John T. Conway
Chairman

c: Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.