

**The Deputy Secretary of Energy**

1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585  
(202) 586-5500 • FAX (202) 586-0148

February 9, 2000

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DNF SAFETY BOARD

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

*John*

We have initiated development of the report you requested in your letter of January 20, 2000, on software quality assurance. Mr. John M. Gilligan, the Department's Chief Information Officer, is assigned to lead the development and implementation of a plan for an appropriate response. Upon initial review, it appears that an adequate response on this important safety issue may require more than 60 days. During that 60 day period, I will transmit a copy of our plan and schedule for resolving this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "TJ", written in a cursive style.

T. J. Glauthier

cc: Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.

