

John T. Conway, Chairman  
A.J. Eggenberger, Vice Chairman  
Joseph J. DiNunno  
Herbert John Cecil Kouts  
John E. Mansfield

# DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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99-0001359



May 7, 1999

The Honorable David Michaels  
Assistant Secretary for Environment,  
Safety and Health  
Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585-0104

Dear Dr. Michaels:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has been following with interest the plan to conduct an EH Criticality Workshop for Senior Managers. This workshop was to have been held June 15-16, 1999. As a reflection of the importance the Board attaches to this effort, two Board members planned to attend and contribute to the program. We have now been informed by Dr. Jerry McKamy of the Office of Engineering Assistance and Site Interface that the EH Criticality Workshop for Senior Managers has been postponed. We are disappointed by this postponement as the Board strongly supports efforts to promote awareness of the crucial role of criticality in the safety of nuclear operations. Participation in a criticality workshop will provide senior Department of Energy managers a unique opportunity to develop an enhanced understanding of their responsibility in the programmatic management of criticality safety.

I wish also to inform you that the Board supports an early rescheduling of the criticality workshop and that both Dr. Herbert J. Kouts and Dr. Jack Mansfield remain committed to participating. Please inform me of Dr. McKamy's plan for rescheduling the proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "John T. Conway".

John T. Conway  
Chairman

c: The Honorable Victor H. Reis  
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.  
Mr. Mark H. Williams