



97-0001110

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 28, 1997

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are the final "Safety Analysis Reports" (SAR) and "Safety Evaluation Reports" (SER) for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, and the K-25 Site Uranium Hexafluoride (UF₆) Cylinder Storage Yards. These documents complete all of the deliverables identified in the "Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 95-1."

These SARs are the updated safety bases for storage and maintenance of cylinders containing depleted UF₆ at the aforementioned three sites. The Department has reviewed the SARs, and prepared and issued safety evaluation reports approving them. The Department finds that the updated safety bases for continued cylinder storage are adequate and that these safety bases will be maintained through a rigorous change control process. As a result of our analyses, we conclude that a study of alternative chemical forms for long-term storage is not required from a safety standpoint.

Sincerely,

Ray A. Hunter

Ray A. Hunter, Deputy Director
Office of Nuclear Energy,
Science and Technology

Enclosure :

See attached list of enclosures.

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List of Enclosures

1. "Safety Analysis Report, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Volumes 1 and 2 of 2, KY/EM-174, 1/14/97 97/1111
2. "Technical Safety Requirements, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant," KY/EM-175, 9/27/96 97/1112
3. "Safety Evaluation Report for Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant," Volumes I and II of II, DOE/OR/02-1561 97/1113
4. "Safety Analysis Report, Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant," Volumes 1 and 2 of 2, POEF-LMES-89, 1/13/97 97/1114
5. "Technical Safety Requirements, Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant," POEF-LMES-90, 9/25/96 97/1115
6. "Safety Evaluation Report for Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant," Volumes I and II of II, DOE/OR/02-1560, 2/3/97 97/1116
7. "K-25 Site UF₆ Cylinder Storage Yards Final Safety Analysis Report," K/D-SAR-29, 2/28/97 97/1117
8. "Technical Safety Requirements for the K-25 Site UF₆ Cylinder Storage Yards," K/D-6572, 2/28/97 97/1118
9. "Safety Evaluation Report for K-25 Site UF₆ Cylinder Storage Yards, Oak Ridge, Tennessee," DOE/OR/02-1578, 3/13/97 97/1119