

appropriate Department of Energy Authorization Official.

(5) The Department will develop and implement options necessary to sustain a technically competent Nuclear Explosive Safety Study Group talent pool.

(6) The Department recognizes the need to pursue the safety management enhancement sought in Recommendation 98-2 consistent with the development of the Pantex Integrated Safety Management System as part of the Implementation Plan for Recommendation 95-2.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Military Application and Stockpile Management, Defense Programs, is the Responsible Manager for the preparation of the Implementation Plan. He will work with you to develop an acceptable plan, meeting our mutual expectations.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Richardson.

[FR Doc. 98-32902 Filed 12-9-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### DOE Response to Recommendation 98-1 of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Integrated Safety Management and the Department of Energy (DOE) Facilities.

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board published Recommendation 98-1, concerning integrated safety management and the Department of Energy (DOE) facilities, on October 6, 1998 (63 FR 53646). Section 315(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2286d(b) required the Department of Energy to transmit a response to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board by November 20, 1998. The Secretary's response follows.

**DATES:** Comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response are due on or before January 11, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response to: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C., 20004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Ellen Livingston-Behan, Senior Program Advisor to the Secretary of Energy, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20585.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 2, 1998.

**Theodore Wyka,**

*Departmental Representative to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.*

November 20, 1998.

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

Dear Mr. Chairman: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 98-1, issued on September 28, 1998, recommends improvements to the Department's program for resolving the findings of its independent internal safety oversight organization. I agree that such improvements will enhance our ability to ensure safety. Thus, the Department accepts Board recommendation 98-1.

The Department is committed to having an effective internal, independent oversight function as part of an overall safety assurance approach that also includes line management self-assessments. The Department's policy on line environment, safety and health oversight clearly establishes our expectations that robust, rigorous and credible contractor self-assessments together with Department line management oversight provide the primary basis for ensuring safety. Concurrently, the Department's Office of Oversight is responsible for independent safety oversight. Its findings are communicated to line management through inspection reports (such as safety management evaluations), topical and issue reviews, special studies, and accident investigations. Adequate and timely resolution of safety findings is the responsibility of line management, which has overall responsibility for performing work safely, gathering and considering safety feedback, and making necessary improvements. By acting on the Board's recommendation, we expect to further clarify these roles and responsibilities, and promote effective communication between line management and the independent oversight organization. Both are essential to the effective resolution of identified oversight findings.

The Department has completed a preliminary analysis of the issues raised in the Board's recommendation, and has identified the following as the foundation and focus of our implementation plan.

- The plan will describe a consistent, disciplined framework for developing and implementing corrective action plans in response to oversight findings, tracking and reporting status of corrective actions, verifying the completion of corrective actions, and resolving differences or issues that may arise relative to corrective actions. Department directives will be revised to implement the necessary framework.

- The role of the Office of the Secretary in resolving differences or issues that may arise in response to independent oversight findings will be clarified through enhancements to existing Department directives.

I have asked Ms. Ellen Livingston-Behan, Senior Program Advisor to the Office of the Secretary, to serve as the responsible

manager for this recommendation. As the principal point of contact with the Board for this recommendation, she will work with you and your staff to develop an acceptable implementation plan that meets our mutual expectations. If you have questions, please contact her at (202) 586-9500.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Richardson

[FR Doc. 98-32903 Filed 12-9-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science; Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 99-04: Human Genome Program—Technological Advances

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Correction.

In notice document 98-31367 beginning on page 64944, in the issue of Tuesday, November 24, 1998, make the following correction:

On page 64945, in the third column, under the heading "Program Funding", in the second line the dollar amount should read "\$5,000,000".

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 3, 1998.

**John Rodney Clark,**

*Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.*

[FR Doc. 98-32901 Filed 12-9-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

**RIN 1904-AA67**

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission for review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, the Office of Codes and Standards (OCS) in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EE) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval.