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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF ENERGY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
NUCLEAR WEAPONS COUNCIL MEMBERS

SUBJECT: (U) Update to Joint W78/88-1 Warhead Life Extension Program Phase 6.2, *Analysis of Alternatives/Feasibility Study*

(FOUO) The Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC) provided written approval for entry into Phase 6.2, *Analysis of Alternatives/Feasibility Study*, for the Joint W78/88-1 Warhead Life Extension Program (LEP) on June 18, 2012. The original letter contains guidance and direction that remains intact and should continue to be followed during the study. This update reflects the November 2, 2012, NWC decision to expand the study to evaluate baseline options as described below:

1. (FOUO) In addition to concepts with an interoperable nuclear explosive package, the Phase 6.2 study will develop a W88 option based on the current design. Surety enhancements will be considered objective requirements for this option.
2. (FOUO) At the completion of Phase 6.2, a decision will be made regarding which warhead design(s) will be carried forward into and costed during Phase 6.2A.

(U) The joint Air Force, Navy, and Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) LEP Project Officers Group will evaluate and report to the NWCSSC any impact of NWC study guidance or emerging issues on program milestones or critical decision dates.

(U) The NWC acknowledges the ongoing Navy, Air Force, and DOE/NNSA efforts to support this program and looks forward to continuing a close and productive relationship among the Departments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Kendall".

Frank Kendall
Chairman

cc:
NWCSSC Members

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