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**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



March 19, 2013

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Chu:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) issued Recommendation 2007-1, *Safety-Related In Situ Nondestructive Assay of Radioactive Materials*, on April 25, 2007, which sought to improve assay programs for radioactive material holdup at defense nuclear facilities. The letter from the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration to the Board, dated October 22, 2012, describes actions the Department of Energy (DOE) has taken to address the remaining open commitments of the Implementation Plan. The Board agrees that these actions are sufficient to close the Recommendation.

While executing the Implementation Plan, DOE identified additional actions to be taken to further improve its complex-wide assay programs. The Board believes taking these additional actions are paramount to establishing a framework for continued improvements in complex-wide in situ nondestructive assay programs. In addition, the Board encourages DOE to disseminate formal lessons learned from the decontamination and decommissioning of defense nuclear facilities. The Board's staff will continue to monitor DOE's progress in this regard.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Winokur, Ph.D.
Chairman

c: Mrs. Mari-Jo Campagnone