



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

April 19, 2013

The Honorable Peter S. Winokur
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On September 28, 2012, the Department of Energy (DOE) received Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 2012-2, *Hanford Tank Farms Flammable Gas Safety Strategy*.

On January 7, 2013, the Department accepted the Board's Recommendation. DOE is assessing the impacts of funding to the Department under the current fiscal conditions and additional time is required to define these impacts on the implementation schedule. Also, DOE is working with your staff to develop an appropriate Implementation Plan (IP). In accordance with Title 42 U.S.C. §2286d(e), DOE is taking an extension of 45 days to complete the IP, and is therefore notifying you as required.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me or Mr. David Huizenga, Senior Advisor for Environmental Management, at (202) 586-7709.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Chu".

Steven Chu

