

## The Secretary of Energy Washington, D.C. 20585

July 11, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 20, as well as for bringing to my attention the priorities of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. It was most helpful to exchange views and gain your perspective on these issues at our recent meeting over lunch with Vice Chairman Roberson and Deputy Secretary Poneman.

Safety is a core value of the Department of Energy, and Deputy Secretary Poneman and I are committed to continuing to strengthen safety across the complex. As you know, shortly after my confirmation I travelled to Hanford; while there I met with site staff focusing on safety in the execution of our mission, including some who have raised technical and management concerns.

Deputy Secretary Poneman and I look forward to a productive relationship with the Board and to furthering our shared interests.

Sincerely,

Ernest J. Moniz