



Department of Energy  
Office of Science  
Washington, DC 20585

Office of the Director

October 1, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) self-assessment reports for the Office of Science (SC) Defense Nuclear Facilities federal and contractor organizations, as required by Action 2-5 of the Department of Energy's Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2011-1, *Safety Culture at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant*. This transmittal includes the following two reports:

- 1) *PNNL Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) Self-Assessment Report, May 2013*
- 2) *Pacific Northwest Site Office and SC-3 Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) Self-Assessment Report, August 2013*

The reports describe the current status of SCWE within SC for the single Defense Nuclear Facility, Building 325 at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and serve as a baseline we are using to define improvements and measure progress. The reports identify a number of opportunities to improve safety culture across our federal and contractor organizations. We currently are developing an SC strategy to address the recommendations from the assessments, and we expect to complete an integrated set of actions incorporating office-specific and SC wide improvements. The Office of Science is committed to establishing a robust safety culture within its federal and contractor organizations and we recognize a sustained multi-year effort is required to achieve the desired changes.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (202) 586-5430, or Joseph McBrearty, Deputy Director for Field Operations at (202) 586-5434.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia M. Dehmer".

Enclosures

Patricia M. Dehmer  
Acting Director, Office of Science



cc w/attachments:

C. Sohn, SC-3/PNSO

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