



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

September 9, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in reference to your August 28, 2012, letter concerning activity-level work planning and control at the Department of Energy (DOE). In this letter, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) requested a report and briefing within 60 days addressing the lack of comprehensive requirements and guidance identified in the report, DNFSB/TECH-37, *Integrated Safety Management at the Activity Level: Work Planning and Control*. The Board also requested a report and briefing within 12 months that details DOE's assessment of the effectiveness of its actions to address weaknesses in work planning and control (WP&C).

On November 30, 2012, DOE provided a response that details the actions the Department has taken, as well as commitments to strengthen implementation of activity-level WP&C. The planned actions communicated in that DOE response were aimed at achieving three specific outcomes:

1. Enhance complex-wide awareness of, and reinforce, the need for rigorous activity-level WP&C.
2. Strengthen guidance and formality associated with contractor implementation, as well as the Federal monitoring of activity-level WP&C.
3. Enhance Federal and contractor oversight of activity level WP&C.

The Department has made significant progress across the specific actions planned to meet aforementioned performance outcomes. Concurrently, we are also actively capturing and sharing the resulting lessons learned so that the experience can be immediately applied by the sites and their contractors to strengthen implementation of activity-level WP&C.



DOE requests an extension until November 30, 2013, which coincides with the 1-year anniversary of the DOE response, to complete the 1-year reporting requirement that details the accomplishments, progress, and assessment of the effectiveness of our efforts to improve activity-level work planning and control.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 903-5926.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Pat C', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patricia R. Worthington, PhD
Director
Office of Health and Safety
Office of Health, Safety and Security