

Jessie H. Roberson, Vice Chairman  
Sean Sullivan  
Daniel J. Santos

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES  
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



June 25, 2015

Mr. Geoffrey Beausoleil  
Manager, NNSA Production Office  
Department of Energy  
P. O. Box 2050, Mail Stop 8009  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. Beausoleil:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) would like to get a better understanding of the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) confinement ventilation system design and performance in a post-seismic condition. The Board's staff performed an evaluation of the Safety Design Strategy for UPF and concluded that if the confinement ventilation system is necessary to provide defense-in-depth, then it would not meet the criteria of Department of Energy (DOE) Order 420.1C, *Facility Safety*, which requires the confinement of radioactive materials following a design basis earthquake. Information provided to date does not clearly identify the design strategy selected by DOE. Specifically, whether in a post-seismic condition the project will utilize an active confinement ventilation system or an alternate approach (with a commensurate technical evaluation).

Therefore, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 2286b(d), the Board requests a report within 90 days of receipt of this letter regarding the design methodology and technical basis associated with the design of the UPF confinement ventilation system in a post-seismic condition.

Sincerely,

  
Jessie H. Roberson  
Vice Chairman

c: Mr. Matthew B. Moury  
Mr. Joe Olencz  
Mr. James McConnell