



**Department of Energy**  
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security  
Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration  
Washington, DC 20585



June 12, 2015

The Honorable Jessie H. Roberson  
Vice Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Madam Vice Chairman:

This letter responds to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) letter, dated April 21, 2015, requesting a joint review of the processes by which the DNFSB interacts with the Department of Energy (DOE) to identify potential safety issues in the design and construction of new DOE Defense Nuclear Facilities.

We agree that performing a joint review would be beneficial to both the DOE and the DNFSB. The past eight years of experience should provide the lessons learned to continue to improve the safety review process between DOE and the DNFSB in the design and construction of new DOE Defense Nuclear Facilities. Mr. Robert Raines, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Associate Administrator for Acquisition and Project Management, and Mr. Jack Surash, DOE Environmental Management (EM), Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition Project Management, will be our points of contact for this review. Mr. Raines and Mr. Surash are well positioned to draw upon other program resources as needed to ensure an efficient review.

We look forward to working with your point of contact to continue improvements in DOE and DNFSB interactions on potential safety issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank G. Klotz".

Frank G. Klotz

cc: Joe Olencz, AU-1.1

