

Sean Sullivan, Chairman  
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**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES  
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



October 26, 2017

The Honorable James Richard Perry  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Perry:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has evaluated the Department of Energy's progress on Board Recommendation 2012-2, *Hanford Tank Farms Flammable Gas Safety Strategy*.

On December 27, 2016, we received a letter stating that DOE expected to complete Deliverable 3-1 of Board Recommendation 2012-2 in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2017. Deliverable 3-1 "provide[s] SS [safety-significant] annulus level detectors in each of the DST [double-shell tank] annuli where the flammable gas hazard exists." Our staff recently reviewed the design of the new wireless instrumentation system associated with this deliverable. The approach described in site documentation should adequately transmit safety-related information from the tank farms to tank farm control stations.

We continue to follow DOE's progress towards executing Deliverables 2-2 and 2-3, which together encompass the installation of safety-significant DST ventilation flow monitors, and approval of the corresponding safety basis amendment. DOE's latest implementation plan, dated March 24, 2016, states that it will complete these deliverables by the second and fourth quarters, respectively, of fiscal year 2018.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Sullivan".

Sean Sullivan  
Chairman

c: Mr. Joe Olencz