



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 31, 2009

The Honorable John E. Mansfield  
Vice Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman:

Enclosed are the review results for Environmental Management (EM) site evaluation reports of facility ventilation capabilities performed by Headquarters (HQ). Deliverables for high priority facilities were provided by the Department of Energy's letter dated June 8, 2007; updated information is provided in Enclosure 1. These reports fulfill commitment 8.6.5 of Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2004-2, *Confinement Ventilation*.

Per Secretary Chu's letter, dated July 29, 2009, the HQ review ensured that the site reports "appropriately reflect the ventilation system guidance (including the review criteria) and that an evaluation of the cost and benefit of proposed modifications to close any gaps between the facility ventilation capabilities and the guide's review criteria was performed." The results of these cost and benefit evaluations are a list of potential upgrade projects for EM facilities, described in the individual reports. These reports have been reviewed by the EM Technical Authority Board (TAB) and the Chief Nuclear Safety.

Since the reports address dozens of facilities at six sites, the TAB will perform a cross-cutting review of these potential upgrade projects, in order to ensure consistency among sites, complete several reviews that the TAB directed be re-performed, and establish an integrated priority list. This further review will be completed by June 25, 2010.

If you have any further questions or need additional information regarding our plans, please contact me at (202) 586-7709 or Dr. Steven L. Krahn, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety and Security Program at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Inés R. Triay".

Inés R. Triay  
Assistant Secretary for  
Environmental Management

Enclosures (9)

