

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD



Peter S. Winokur, Chairman
John E. Mansfield, Vice Chairman
Joseph F. Bader
Larry W. Brown
Jessie H. Roberson

625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20004-2901
(202) 694-7000

June 10, 2010

Mr. Richard Lagdon
Chief of Nuclear Safety
U. S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Mr. Lagdon:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) would like to thank you for representing the Under Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE) and testifying at our May 12, 2010, public meeting and hearing on safety oversight of defense nuclear facilities. Your testimony on the DOE initiatives articulated in the Deputy Secretary of Energy's March 16, 2010, memorandum entitled *Department of Energy 2010 Safety and Security Reform Plan* conveyed your understanding that the underlying goal of any safety reform is to apply directives intelligently and to execute oversight responsibilities prudently. The Board appreciates your perspective.

In your testimony, you also indicated that the existing governance structure will continue for Office of Environmental Management contractors. The Board encourages continuing this conservative approach toward maintaining directives and oversight methods, while seeking to strengthen and improve safety at defense nuclear facilities.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Winokur, Ph.D.
Chairman

c: The Honorable Kristina Johnson
Mrs. Mari-Jo Campagnone