

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 20, 2010

The Honorable John E. Mansfield Vice Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 624 Indiana Avenue, NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On October 26, 2009, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board issued recommendation 2009-2, Los Alamos National Laboratory Plutonium Facility Seismic Safety. The Department anticipates accepting this recommendation. Our full response to this recommendation, however, is currently under review.

In accordance with 42 U.S.C. §228d(b)(1), therefore, the Department requests two weeks from today to respond formally to this recommendation. If the extension is granted, our response will be submitted no later than February 3, 2010.

Sincerely,

Scott Blake Harris General Counsel