

The Deputy Secretary of Energy Washington, DC 20585

November 19, 2010

The Honorable Peter S. Winokur Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for taking the time to meet this week. As you know, the Secretary and I, as well as the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), are strongly committed to nuclear safety and the need for an integrated approach to governance. For that reason, NNSA will not approve modified contractual approaches for health, safety, and security directives, all of which will be reviewed in the next 6 to 8 months using the Department's directives review system.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel B. Poneman