Dear Mr. Chairman:

On July 16, 2010, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) provided a letter to the Department of Energy (DOE) concerning inclusion of hazard controls within the safety basis documents at the Savannah River Site (SRS). Specifically, the letter requested that DOE provide a report and briefing regarding corrective actions to bring SRS procedures into compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR 830. The Board requested a response within 90 days of receipt of the letter.

The purpose of this letter is to request a 30-day extension for responding to your request. DOE has been diligently working to respond to the original 90 day request date and has made significant progress. However, to completely ensure we have adequately and completely addressed all the Board concerns, DOE is evaluating the efficacy of various corrective actions.

This evaluation will allow us to be responsive to your request. The response will be provided to the Board by November 15, 2010. In the meantime, DOE will provide a briefing on this topic, as you requested, during your visit to SRS on October 21, 2010, and will continue dialog with your staff.

If you have any further questions, please contact Jim McConnell, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Nuclear Safety and Operations at (202) 586-4379 or Dr. Steven L. Krahn, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety and Security Program at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

Inés R. Triay
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management

Donald L. Cook
Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs
National Nuclear Security Administration