

The Deputy Secretary of Energy Washington, DC 20585

May 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:

The purpose of this letter is to request a 45-day extension for responding to your letter of March 15, 2010, addressing the Board's concerns about the Department of Energy's (DOE) implementation of DOE Standard 3009. The Department needs this additional time to make sure that it is fully responsive to your letter. The Department plans to reply separately by June 30, 2010, to each set of questions raised.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact my Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer, Mr. Glenn Podonsky, at (202) 287-6071.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel B. Poneman