



Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Washington, DC 20585



FEB 02 2012

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in reference to your December 13, 2011, letter concerning the design, functionality, and maintenance of selected safety systems at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The letter provided Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) staff concerns over two safety functions at the LLNL Plutonium Facility: confinement boundaries of the glovebox system and the potential defeat of the Fire Detection and Alarm System by a non-safety system. Livermore Site Office and LLNL are continuing their reviews and evaluating appropriate options to address the Board's concerns and to ensure continued safe operations. An additional 30 days beyond the requested 60-day timeframe is needed to complete our response to the Board.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (202) 586-2179 or have your staff contact Ms. Sharon Steele at (202) 586-9554.

Sincerely,

DONALD L. COOK  
Deputy Administrator  
for Defense Programs

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1  
K. Davis, LSO  
T. D'Agostino, NA-1  
R. Lewis, NA-10.2

