



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 30, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On June 23, 2011, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) was informed of the Department of Energy's plans regarding the Sludge Treatment Project (STP) at the Hanford site. At that time, we indicated that DOE would complete a K-Basin STP packaging technology evaluation by March 31, 2012, and issue a report that would include a schedule for new interim milestones for bench scale or identified testing in support of process design. In addition, Board Recommendation 2000-1 requires that the K-Basin STP complete a Phase II alternatives analysis for the sludge and a proposed completion schedule by March 31, 2012.

This letter is to notify you that the K-Basin STP is currently negotiating new Tri-Party Agreement milestones with the Environmental Protection Agency for sludge treatment and packaging technology. An additional 30 days beyond the March 31, 2012, due date is requested and needed to complete our response to the Board.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Matthew Moury, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety, Security, and Quality Programs, at (202) 586-5151.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Huizenga".

David Huizenga  
Senior Advisor  
for Environmental Management

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1  
M. McCormick, RL  
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