



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

November 27, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Energy (DOE) acknowledges receipt of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 2012-2, *Hanford Tank Farms Flammable Gas Safety Strategy*, issued on September 28, 2012, and posted in the Federal Register on October 12, 2012.

As part of its evaluation of Recommendation 2012-2, DOE has had productive discussions with the Board's staff. DOE will continue that dialogue with the Board and its staff to gain additional clarity on the Recommendation. DOE requests an additional 45 days to develop its response to Recommendation 2012-2.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. David Huizenga, Senior Advisor for Environmental Management, at (202) 586-7709.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven Chu".

Steven Chu

