



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



April 11, 2013

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has completed all but two of its commitments (505 and 511) from the Implementation Plan (IP) for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 2000-1, *Prioritization for Stabilizing Nuclear Materials*. Regarding Commitment 511, the remaining 2% of material to be stabilized consists of approximately 20 kilograms of depleted uranium and 5 kilograms of actinides other than plutonium. These items do not require immediate stabilization but are now included in a larger accelerated effort funded by the NNSA Office of Defense Programs to disposition all excess materials held at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Under this effort, these items will be prioritized by risk and dispositioned over the next 5 years. Commitment 505 (Stabilize all full vessels and disposition materials) is being managed by the Confinement Vessel Disposition (CVD) Project. The current schedule shows muck out operations starting in late Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 with completion of all nine spheres scheduled for late FY 2015.

Given the progress made in achieving the safety improvements envisioned under Recommendation 2000-1, future reports on Commitment 511 will be provided as part of updates on efforts to reduce inventory at LANL, rather than tracking this item separately under the IP for the Recommendation. Similarly, future reports on Commitment 505 will be provided in conjunction with updates on the implementation of DOE Manual 441.1-1, *Nuclear Material Packaging Manual*, as well as the CVD Project. These changes to our reporting on these commitments will result in a more efficient communication of the systemic improvements to which they now contribute.



If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Dr. Jerry McKamy at (301) 903-7980.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James F. McConnell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being particularly prominent.

James F. McConnell
Acting Associate Administrator
for Infrastructure and Operations

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1
M. Lempke, NA-00
D. Nichols, NA-SH-1
J. Griego, NA-00-LA