



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



SEP 16 2013

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 August 26, 2013, correspondence concerning your review of the updated safety basis and design information for the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF). The Board requested a report and briefing within 60 days describing (1) National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) plan and schedule for addressing the issues detailed in the section titled, "Open Issues with the UPF Safety Basis," mentioned in the staff report included in your letter; and (2) NNSA's plan to strengthen oversight of control selection and evaluation processes for the UPF project.

The 60 day end date of your request roughly coincides with your scheduled public meeting in Oak Ridge on these topics in October 2013. It is our desire to focus on a thorough and detailed exchange at the public meeting. Further, we desire that our written response be informed by the results of this meeting. Hence, NNSA will provide its response 30 days after the Public Meeting and Hearing.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (202) 586-8246.

Sincerely,

James J. McConnell
Acting Associate Administrator
for Infrastructure and Operations

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1
S. Erhart, NA-NPO
D. Nichols, NA-SH-1
J. Eschenberg, APM-1.3

