

Peter S. Winokur, Chairman
Jessie H. Roberson, Vice Chairman
Sean Sullivan

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



October 29, 2014

Mr. Mark Whitney
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0113

Dear Mr. Whitney:

Thank you for participating in the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's October 7, 2014, public meeting and hearing on "Safety Culture and Board Recommendation 2011-1." We were particularly encouraged to hear from both you and the Secretary about your drive for safety culture improvements at the Hanford Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant. Equally important was your recognition of the correlation between safety culture and the resolution of outstanding technical issues with the design of the plant.

On behalf of all Members of the Board, I thank you again for your participation in our public meeting and hearing. We look forward to future interactions with you and other Office of Environmental Management leaders, and to hear more about the progress of your safety culture initiatives.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Winokur, Ph.D.
Chairman

c: Mr. Joe Olencz