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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to inform you that the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science (SC) has completed Action 2-11 for SC of the Department's Implementation Plan (IP) for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) Recommendation 2011-1, Safety Culture at the Waste Treatment and immobilization Plant.

The deliverable for Action 2-11 is the memorandum from the Program Secretarial Officer to sites to develop processes and controls for sustainment of a robust safety culture. The enclosure to this letter is the memorandum from my office to the Pacific Northwest Site Office Manager. The Office of Science has a single defense nuclear facility, Building 325 at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-5434.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. McBrearty  
Deputy Director for Field Operations  
Office of Science

Enclosure
cc:
S. Short, SC-3
C. Sohn, SC-3/PNSO
D. Sigg, AU 1.1
J. Hutton, EM-40
MEMORANDUM FOR ROGER SNYDER
MANAGER
PACIFIC NORTHWEST SITE OFFICE

FROM: JOSEPH A. MCBREARTY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR FIELD OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF SCIENCE

SUBJECT: Request for Safety Culture Sustainment Plan

I appreciate the efforts, by both the site office and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) on the Safety Culture/Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) self-assessment conducted in 2013. The self-assessments were a valuable tool in being self-critical of the safety culture of the Federal and contractor work environment. I am confident you are making progress on improvements to address the assessment findings.

On May 29, 2014, the Deputy Secretary sent the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB), the report on the consolidated results of safety culture and safety conscious work environment (SCWE) self-assessments (https://hsspublic.energy.gov/deprep/2014/TB14Y29A.PDF). Preparation of plans for safety culture sustainment tools is the next DOE 2011-1 Implementation Plan action for defense nuclear facility sites. The DOE 2011-1 implementation plan, Action 2-12, requires each site to “submit proposed site specific safety culture sustainment tools to PSOs for approval”.

Please submit safety culture sustainment plans (both Contractor and Federal) that:
- identify specific sustainment tools that will be used;
- describe the tools; and
- include the approach and schedule for implementation of the tools.

Each plan must include the tools the Contractor (PNNL) and Site Office will implement. Examples of sustainment tools include:
- safety culture monitoring panels
- action plans for the self-assessments
- periodic self-assessments
- periodic independent reviews
- continuing training
- performance measures
- contract incentives
You have flexibility to select sustainment tools suitable for the specific conditions at your site. I appreciate your efforts to improve our safety and performance culture.

Please send your safety culture sustainment plans to myself and Carol Sohn by September 15, 2014. If you have questions please contact Carol Sohn at (509) 420-3281.

cc:
S. Short, SC-3
C. Sohn, SC-3
C. Swafford, PNSO
J. Erickson, PNSO
J. Hutton, EM-40
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File