

Jessie H. Roberson, Vice Chairman
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**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



May 13, 2015

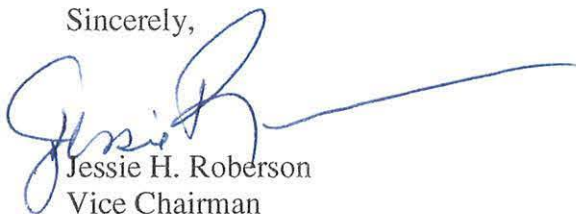
The Honorable Frank G. Klotz
Administrator
National Nuclear Security Administration
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0701

Dear Administrator Klotz:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board issues project letters in conjunction with major critical decision points of new facilities. This letter is the project letter for Critical Decision (CD)-4 (approve start of operations or project completion) for the Waste Solidification Building at the Savannah River Site.

We currently have no unresolved safety issues with the Waste Solidification Building. After the approval of CD-4, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) plans to enter the facility into cold standby, where the building and equipment will be protected and maintained with no nuclear operations performed. This will be done without completing key CD-4 activities, including NNSA approval of the facility's Documented Safety Analysis and conduct of an Operational Readiness Review, as required by Department of Energy Order 413.3B, *Program and Project Management for the Acquisition of Capital Assets*. We understand that NNSA plans to complete these activities prior to the commencement of facility operations. We will, therefore, review these important nuclear safety activities as they are performed.

Sincerely,



Jessie H. Roberson
Vice Chairman

c: Mr. Robert B. Raines
Mr. Joe Olencz