



**Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
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December 14, 2016 -

The Honorable Joyce L. Connery  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004

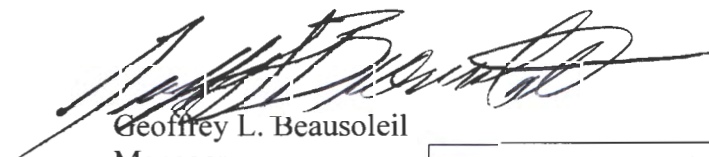
Dear Chairman Connery:

Enclosed are the deliverables for the second quarter milestones from the Department of Energy's Implementation Plan (IP) responding to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2015-1, *Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Pantex Plant*. In addition, Enclosure 1 is the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Production Office (NPO) Review Report. The second quarter deliverables build on the accomplishments of the first quarter. The most significant accomplishment is the approval and issuance of the Pantex Emergency Planning Hazards Survey and Emergency Planning Hazards Assessment. We used this updated technical planning basis to revise preparedness and response strategies, i.e., the Pantex Plant Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, the Emergency Management Department's Exercise, Training and Drills Program Manuals, and the Updated 5-Year Exercise Schedule.

During this quarter, the Office of Enterprise Assessments (EA) team began an independent review of the actions being performed in association with the IP deliverables to assess effectiveness of improvements and alignment with this recommendation. The Pantex and EA technical exchange has resulted in identifying potential enhancements to the implementation of precautionary protective actions and achieving a better balance in considering hazards and initiators of an emergency (e.g., a tornado or explosion) for prioritizing training, drills and exercises.

Pantex will be conducting a full-scale exercise on February 22, 2017, in order to assess our progress in areas identified for improvement. I welcome you and your staff's observations of the exercise. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this important activity. If you have any questions, please contact me at (865) 576-0752.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey L. Beausoleil  
Manager

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Unclassified Controlled Nuclear  
Information. When separated from  
enclosures, this transmittal document is  
Unclassified.

Enclosures:

1. Pantex DNFSB Recommendation 2015-1, Implementation Plan Milestone Deliverable Review, NPO Validation and Verification, Quarter Two Deliverables
2. Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Implementation Plan Milestones, Second Quarter

cc w/Enclosures:

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E. Smith, NA-40

cc w/o Enclosures:

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**Note: Please contact us at (301) 903-8019 for a copy of the enclosure(s)**