



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington DC 20585

October 13, 2017

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Sean Sullivan
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Ave NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Sullivan:

Thank you for your June 26 letter transmitting three opportunities for improvement (OFI's) on the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) Project. NNSA has reviewed these OFI's, which we understand are opportunities that should be evaluated, as appropriate, for improvements in performance against potential cost or schedule impacts.

The three OFI's you identified relate to fire pumps, glovebox windows, and fire suppression system safety classification. NNSA implemented your OFI's pertaining to fire pumps and glovebox windows by finalizing the testing plan for seismic qualification of the fire pumps and documenting approval of the equivalency for Lexan® glovebox windows. The OFI regarding the fire suppression system will be evaluated as part of the approval of the Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis (PDSA) in December 2017.

NNSA is committed to ensuring the UPF design is compliant with Departmental orders and requirements, and implementing a conservative approach to protecting workers. We look forward to the upcoming DNFSB review of the PDSA as the UPF Project continues to move forward for Critical Decision (CD)-2/3 approval.

If you have questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Dale Christenson, the UPF Federal Project Director, at dale.christenson@upo.doe.gov or (865) 574-3964.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William I. White".

William I. White
Associate Principal Deputy Administrator
and Chief of Staff

cc:

R. Raines, NA-APM-1
G. Beausoleil, NA-NPO
Joe Olencz, AU-1.1

