



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Department of Energy's Responses to Information Requested by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

Report Period: July 1 – December 31, 2020

**Report to Congress
February 2021**

**United States Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585**

Message from the Acting Secretary

This is the U.S. Department of Energy's (Department or DOE), including the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA), biannual report to Congress addressing DOE's response to requests by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or Board) for access to information during the period January 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020. This report is in accordance with 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 2286c paragraph (b)(2), which states:

- (2) If the Board requests access to information under subsection (a) in written form, and the Secretary denies access to such information pursuant to paragraph (1)—
 - (A) the Secretary shall provide the Board notice of such denial in written form; and
 - (B) not later than January 1 and July 1 of each year beginning in 2020—
 - (i) the Board shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report identifying each request for access to information under subsection (a) submitted to the Secretary in written form during the preceding six-month period and denied by the Secretary; and
 - (ii) the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees¹ a report identifying—
 - (I) each such request denied by the Secretary during that period; and
 - (II) the reason for the denial.

Pursuant to statutory requirements, this report is being provided to:

- **The Honorable Jack Reed**
Chairman, Senate Committee on Armed Services
- **The Honorable James Inhofe**
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Armed Services
- **The Honorable Patrick Leahy**
Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Richard Shelby**
Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations

¹ The term 'congressional defense committees' has the meaning given that term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code. (42 U.S.C. Section 2286c paragraph (b)(3))

- **The Honorable Adam Smith**
Chairman, House Committee on Armed Services
- **The Honorable Mike Rogers**
Ranking Member, House Committee on Armed Service
- **The Honorable Rosa DeLauro**
Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations
- **The Honorable Kay Granger**
Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450, or Ms. Katherine Donley, Deputy Director for External Coordination, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, at (202) 586-0176.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "David Huizenga". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent and the last name "Huizenga" following in a similar style.

David Huizenga
Acting Secretary of Energy

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During this reporting period, the Department of Energy (Department or DOE) continues to process and respond to all Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or Board) requests for information and access. The Secretary of Energy has not issued any written denial of information requested by the DNFSB during this period.

During this reporting period, DOE/NNSA processed over 1,200 document requests from the DNFSB – not including responding to DNFSB correspondence, recommendations, and routine interface activities with DNFSB staff or its Resident Inspectors.