



The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

August 31, 2021

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

Dear Chair Connery:

The Department of Energy (DOE or Department) received the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or Board) letter and technical report DNFSB/TECH-47, *Seismic Hazard Assessments*, on June 10, 2021, with a request for DOE to provide a report and briefing within 90 days in response to DNFSB questions. The Department is evaluating and coordinating its response to the concerns outlined in the DNFSB letter and technical report. This evaluation and coordination will necessitate a 45-day extension to deliver the requested report to the Board.

We appreciate the Board's advice and assistance in bringing attention to the seismic hazard assessment process with the goal of ensuring that credited seismic controls perform their safety functions under seismic events. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Matthew Moury, Associate Under Secretary for Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security, at 202-586-1285.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Granholm".

Jennifer Granholm