



Department of Energy
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security
Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



June 15, 2023

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

Dear Chair Connery:

On June 5, 2020, the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) transmitted Revision 1 to the Implementation Plan (IP) for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2019-1, *Uncontrolled Hazard Scenarios and 10 CFR 830 Implementation at the Pantex Plant*. In accordance with the IP, the NNSA committed to provide a written notification to the DNFSB if any of the IP actions needed to be modified. As of this letter, 65 of the 69 IP actions have been completed and verified closed by the NNSA Production Office (NPO). Two of the remaining actions are on target to be completed by September 2023. The purpose of this letter is to provide notification that the last two IP actions, both tracked under Action 4.4.1, have been modified.

As you are aware, the Pantex Plant (Pantex) is pursuing improvement initiatives in addition to the IP actions. One of these efforts is the Pantex Safety Basis Vision (Vision). The Vision includes modernization of all of the Specific Administrative Controls (SACs) and Design Features (DFs) to align them with elements of DOE-STD-3009-2014. In order to maximize efficiency, the two subject IP actions (both associated with Action 4.4.1 of the IP, related to identifying performance criteria for special tooling) and the modernization efforts have been merged. As a result, the final control modernization packages will include identification of performance criteria for all SACs and DFs, including DFs related to special tooling.

The B61 control modernization packages has been submitted to NPO for review and approval. An integrated NNSA team is currently reviewing this package. The DNFSB staff is also reviewing this package. Lessons learned from these reviews are intended to be incorporated into future modernization packages. Due to the increased scope and incorporation of lessons learned in future packages, the schedule for remaining modernization packages needs to be changed. Similar to IP action 2.1.2, a schedule of the remaining Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) revisions will be approved and managed by NNSA outside of the IP. The IP is revised as follows:

“Action 4.4.1: Establish expectations for identifying performance criteria for special tooling, and issue a plan that includes a schedule for implementing those expectations for all special tools.

- Deliverable #1: Report documenting expectations and schedule for implementation
 - Completion Date: December 2019 **[Complete]**
- Deliverable #2: Letters submitting a revision to the B61 Hazard Analysis Report (HAR) and a schedule for revising the remaining DSAs
 - Completion Date: December 2022 **[Complete]**
 - Completion Criteria: Letters documenting NPO approval of the revised B61 HAR and NPO review and approval on the schedule for revising the remaining DSAs by August 2023”

NPO will continue to execute improvement initiatives of the IP and Pantex Safety Basis Vision. NNSA has shown a commitment to improve the Pantex DSA as identified in Recommendation 2019-1 and has placed this on the NPO Fiscal Year 2023 Top Ten list to ensure these improvements are sustained.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Teresa Robbins, Manager, NPO, at (865) 576-0841.

Sincerely,



Jill Hruby

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