



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



November 8, 2024

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

Dear Chair Connery:

On behalf of the Secretary, I am responding to your August 13, 2024, letter regarding the use of large lithium-ion batteries at defense nuclear facilities. The letter included a reporting requirement for the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide a written response and briefing regarding the uninterruptible power supply in the Device Assembly Facility at the Nevada National Security Site and DOE actions and plans to develop or adopt requirements and guidance on hazard analysis and controls for lithium-ion battery energy storage systems at defense nuclear facilities.

The Department is coordinating with internal stakeholders regarding its path forward. This effort will require additional time to deliver the response and briefing to the Board. We expect to provide the briefing and written response to you by February 28, 2025.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ahmad M. Al-Daouk, Associate Administrator for Environment, Safety, and Health, at (202) 586-4096.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill H", is written over a horizontal line.

Jill Hruby