



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

August 18, 2025

The Honorable Thomas A. Summers  
Acting Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Summers:

On behalf of the Secretary, I am responding to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB or Board) letter dated June 12, 2025, regarding the Board's concerns related to the Safety Integrity Level for the 242-A Evaporator at the Hanford Site. The Department of Energy (DOE) is currently reviewing the information with internal stakeholders and will need an additional 90 days to provide a written response and schedule a briefing.

An extension will afford DOE time to coordinate internally with Program Secretarial Offices to address the Board's questions. We will continue to provide DNFSB staff with periodic updates on our progress.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Brenda Hawks, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations Oversight / Chief of Nuclear Safety, at (865) 805-0391.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger A. Jarrell II".

Roger A. Jarrell II  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Environmental Management

cc: Joe Olencz, EHSS-1.1  
Brenda Hawks, EM-3.11/CNS