Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2013

The Honorable Peter S. Winokur
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) Assessment Reports for National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) federal and contractor organizations, as required by Action 2-5 of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (DNFSB) Recommendation 2011-1, *Safety Culture at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant*. This transmittal includes the following six reports:

1) An Evaluation of Organizational Safety Culture at the U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration; July 2, 2013
2) Los Alamos National Laboratory's Safety Conscious Work Environment Self-Assessment, LA-UR-13-27299, September 20, 2013
3) Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Safety Conscious Work Environment Self-Assessment, LLNL-AM-641616; August 16, 2013
4) Nevada Enterprise Safety/Security Culture Assessment, August 26, 2013
5) Independent Oversight Assessment of Nuclear Safety Culture at the Pantex Plant; November 2012
6) Final Review Report Integrated Safety Management Implementation Utilizing Safety Culture Factors at Sandia National Laboratories and NNSA's Sandia Field Office; February 26, 2013

The NNSA tritium operations at the Savannah River Site, conducted by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, are covered by the Savannah River Site-Wide Summary Report on SCWE self-assessments which DOE's Office of Environmental Management is transmitting to DNFSB. The contractor assessment at Y-12 will be completed by December 2013 and a report will be provided to you upon completion. The Y-12 contractor originally planned to wait until after contract transition to conduct the self assessment. This summer when the site recognized that the timing of contract transition still was uncertain and not likely to occur before September 30, the contractor proceeded with planning and started the self-assessment.

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

The reports describe the current status of SCWE within NNSA and serve as a baseline used to define improvements and measure progress. The reports identify a number of opportunities to improve safety culture across our federal and contractor organizations. In accordance with Action 2-8 of the DOE's Implementation Plan, the Department is utilizing a cross functional team to develop a consolidated report on the results from the extent of condition review information, which includes both the independent safety culture assessments and the SCWE self assessments. The Acting Administrator has been personally leading the overall NNSA effort to improve communication, to understand the common and fundamental performance culture issues and to identify focused and practical improvements. NNSA is committed to establishing a robust safety culture within its federal and contractor organizations and we recognize a sustained multi-year effort is required to achieve the desired changes.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (202) 586-8246 or Michael Zamorski at (505) 845-4375.

Sincerely,

James J. McConnell
Acting Associate Administrator
for Infrastructure and Operations

Enclosure

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1
D. Nichols, NA-SH-1
M. Zamorski, NA-00.1