



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

December 27, 2018

The Honorable Bruce Hamilton
Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Hamilton:

The Department of Energy (Department) received the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or Board) Draft Recommendation 2018-1, *Uncontrolled Hazard Scenarios and 10 CFR 830 Implementation at the Pantex Plant*, on November 29, 2018. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 2286d(a)(2), the Department requests a 30-day extension to provide comments. Lisa E. Gordon-Hagerty, the Department's Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, will provide the response to the DNFSB by January 28, 2019.

The Department is committed to addressing safety basis deficiencies at the Pantex Plant. As you may be aware, the Department has already taken action and continues to monitor closely the completion of actions to address identified concerns. As part of its efforts, the Department has also taken into consideration information from the two DNFSB Staff Issue reports regarding these safety basis deficiencies. Since the Draft Recommendation presents a complex and extensive discussion of safety documents at Pantex, a 30-day extension is necessary to afford the Department sufficient time to assess the Draft Recommendation's findings, supporting data, and analyses.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Geoffrey Beausoleil, Manager of the National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office, at (806) 573-3148 or (865) 576-0752.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry".

Rick Perry

