

Bruce Hamilton, Chairman
Jessie H. Roberson
Joyce L. Connery

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



August 4, 2020

The Honorable Dan Brouillette
Secretary of Energy
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Brouillette:

Our January 16, 2020 correspondence requesting to visit with you in person was overcome by events related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We kindly request that this visit be re-scheduled in the early fall. The focus of our visit will be the development of a Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding between us.

The Senate Armed Services Committee report for the Fiscal Year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act directs the Secretary of Energy and the Chairman of the Board to provide a joint briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than November 1, 2020. The briefing will cover how we intend to come to a common understanding of Order 140.1 and its implementation across the defense nuclear enterprise. Congressional authorization and appropriation committees have encouraged us to work towards a Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding. We are reiterating our desire to work with you on an agreement to ensure our independent safety oversight remains effective, timely, and transparent. The enclosure provides potential topics for inclusion in such an agreement and we are open to additional topics.

Our point of contact for scheduling is our Manager of Board Operations Ms. Tara Tadlock.

Yours truly,

Bruce Hamilton
Chairman

Enclosure

c: Mr. Joe Olencz

Enclosure

Proposed Topics for a Bilateral Memorandum of Agreement

- Agency Roles and Responsibilities
- Board Public Hearings and Meetings
- Board and Department Written Communications
- Headquarters and Site Interactions
- Board Recommendations and Implementation Plan Development
- Board Resident Inspectors
- Access to Information and Facilities
- DOE Directives Interface
- Process to Resolve Interface Issues