PRESS RELEASE

Washington, DC—President Biden has appointed Ms. Joyce Connery as Chair of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. Ms. Connery has been a member of the Board since August 2015. Ms. Connery was confirmed again by the Senate to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board on July 2, 2020, for a term expiring October 18, 2024.

Ms. Connery has had an extensive career in the fields of nuclear security, safety, nonproliferation, and energy policy. Ms. Connery began her career at the national laboratories, first serving in Kazakhstan working on the shutdown of the BN-350 fast breeder reactor and then returning to Washington, DC, to work in the Office of International Safety in the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration. She has served in several capacities at DOE, including as the senior policy advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Energy. She also served two tours in the National Security Council. From February 2008 through May 2010, she worked in the area of nonproliferation and nuclear security, and from January 2012 through July 2015, she served as Director for Nuclear Energy Policy within the Office of International Economics. Ms. Connery received a B.A. and (after a two year stint with the Peace Corps in Turkmenistan) a M.A. from Tufts University.

Upon her appointment as Chair, Ms. Connery stated: “I would like to thank Mr. Summers for his outstanding leadership as Acting Chairman over the past several months. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lead, along with my fellow Board Members, the talented individuals who make up this Agency as we execute this important mission on behalf of the people of the United States of America.”