

Joyce L. Connery, Chair
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



January 26, 2024

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 2286(e)(4)(B), this letter is to notify you that the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) has taken the following actions within the last 30 days:

1. On January 26, 2024, the Board issued the attached Recommendation 2023-1, *Onsite Transportation Safety*, to the Secretary of Energy.
2. On January 12, 2024, the Board's staff initiated a new review to assess any potential public and worker health and safety impacts related to the current structural condition of the Salt Handling Shaft at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). DNFSB intends to review aspects of the facility maintenance program, documented safety analysis, and federal oversight approach in support of this review effort.

On October 18, 2023, the DNFSB lost quorum due to the number of vacant Board Member positions. Since that time, I have carried out the delegated functions and powers of the Board consistent with 42 U.S.C. § 2286(e)(2). As required by 42 U.S.C. § 2286(e)(4)(C), the above listed actions were taken with the concurrence of the DNFSB Vice Chair, Mr. Thomas Summers.

Please note that, if a quorum has not been restored prior to October 18, 2024, the Board will remain without a quorum and the delegation will expire, leaving the Board unable to exercise its statutory authority.

If you have questions, please contact our Associate Director for Board Operations, Tara Tadlock, at 202-694-7090 or TaraT@dnfsb.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce L. Connery".

Joyce L. Connery
Chair

Enclosure: Recommendation 2023-1, Onsite Transportation Safety

Joyce L. Connery, Chair
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



January 26, 2024

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

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Joyce L. Connery
Chair

Enclosure: Recommendation 2023-1, Onsite Transportation Safety

Joyce L. Connery, Chair
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



January 26, 2024

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Joyce L. Connery
Chair

Enclosure: Recommendation 2023-1, Onsite Transportation Safety

Joyce L. Connery, Chair
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



January 26, 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

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Joyce L. Connery
Chair

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