

Department of Energy **National Nuclear Security Administration**

Washington, DC 20585



MAR 2 7 2012

The Honorable Peter S. Winokur Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in reference to your December 29, 2011, letter concerning the work planning and control issues at the Y-12 National Security Complex. The letter provided the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) staff concerns with National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) oversight and implementation of the contractor's institutional directives for work planning and control and requested a response within 120 days.

NNSA has been working with the Board's staff to address these issues and requests a 60-day extension to the April 27, 2012, response date. This additional time will allow the contractor to fully implement corrective actions and the internal self-assessment scheduled in their performance improvement plan. The additional time will allow NNSA to complete an independent review scheduled for the April/May time frame and findings included in the NNSA assessment report and briefing to the Board in June.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (202) 586-2179 or have your staff contact Mr. Jim McConnell at (202) 586-4379.

Sincerely,

DONALD L. COOK Deputy Administrator

for Defense Programs

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1 D. Hoag, YSO

T. D'Agostino, NA-1

K.Keilholtz, NA-10.2