

**In the Matter of:**

**Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board**

*January 24, 2020  
Closed Board Meeting*

**Condensed Transcript with Word Index**



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Closed Board Meeting

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

1/24/2020

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6 DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD  
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10 CLOSED BOARD MEETING  
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13 FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020  
14 10:00 a.m.  
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16 625 Indiana Avenue, NW  
17 Washington, DC 20004  
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I N D E X

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3 AGENDA ITEM: PAGE:  
4 Chairman's Opening Remarks 4  
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6 Board's Opening Remarks 6  
7 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 6  
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9 Board Closing Remarks 41  
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A P P E A R A N C E S

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3 DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD:  
4 BRUCE HAMILTON, Vice Chairman  
5 JESSIE H. ROBERSON, Board Member  
6 JOYCE L. CONNERY, Board Member  
7 ERIC FOX, Associate General Counsel  
8 JOSEPH GILMAN, Associate General Counsel  
9 CHRISTOPHER ROSCETTI, Technical Director  
10 KATHERINE HERRERA, Assistant Technical Director  
11 TARA TADLOCK, Manager of Board Operations  
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25 REPORTED BY: Jen Razzino, CER, Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 - - - - -  
3 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Good morning. We are on the  
4 record. Without objection, in the interest of time, I  
5 will give my opening remarks as Chairman to Ms. Razzino  
6 to enter in the transcript in lieu of reading them  
7 aloud. I'm hearing no objections.  
8 Good morning. My name is Bruce Hamilton and I  
9 am the Chairman of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety  
10 Board. I will preside over today's closed meeting.  
11 With me today are my colleagues on the Board, Board  
12 Member Jessie Roberson and Board Member Joyce Connery.  
13 We three constitute the Board.  
14 Having established a quorum of Board members,  
15 this closed meeting will now come to order. Mr. Joseph  
16 Gilman, the Board's Acting General Counsel, will serve  
17 as the Board's Executive Secretary for the meeting.  
18 This closed meeting was publicly announced on  
19 January 17, 2020, on the Board's public website. This  
20 meeting was subsequently noticed in the Federal Register  
21 on January 22. The Board has closed the meeting to the  
22 public per the provisions of the Government in the  
23 Sunshine Act, as well as the Board's regulations  
24 implementing the Sunshine Act and the Board's operating  
25 procedures for meetings.

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1 This closed meeting concerns member  
 2 deliberations pertaining to the development and  
 3 formulation of potential Board recommendations to the  
 4 Secretary of Energy. The Board's compliance with  
 5 statutory provisions permitting closure of this meeting  
 6 has been stated in the Board's Federal Register notice.  
 7 Additional documentation related to this meeting is  
 8 available on our website, www.dnfsb.gov.

9 As a reminder to those who are in attendance and  
 10 Board employees who may later become privy to these  
 11 proceedings, the Board and its staff are prohibited from  
 12 publicly disclosing information described in draft or  
 13 final recommendations prior to the receipt of the final  
 14 recommendation by the Secretary of Energy. This  
 15 prohibition applies to information described in draft or  
 16 final recommendations prior to the receipt of the final  
 17 recommendation by the Secretary of Energy. This  
 18 prohibition applies to information learned during the  
 19 course of this meeting or by review of the meeting  
 20 transcript, related documents, or from other sources.

21 Pursuant to the specific agenda, the Board will  
 22 deliberate on potential recommendations currently  
 23 pending before the Board. Following the discussion on  
 24 each, I will summarize the outcome of the discussion,  
 25 and the Executive Secretary will summarize any staff

[REDACTED]

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1 taskings and Board votes. After an opportunity for  
 2 closing comments from Board Members, the meeting will  
 3 adjourn. This concludes my opening remarks in my  
 4 capacity as Chairman.

5 We will move straight to Board member opening  
 6 remarks. Ms. Roberson?

7 BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: No remarks at this time,  
 8 Mr. Chairman.

9 JUDGE: Ms. Connery?

10 BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

16 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: And I have no opening  
 17 remarks. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

20 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Okay. Hearing nothing else,  
21 closing remarks. Ms. Roberson?

22 BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Once again, it's fine.  
23 Thank you guys for the work you did. Thanks to the  
24 Board members for engaging. I feel good about the  
25 message and the tone that we will evaluate for voting.

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1 So thank you.  
2 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Ms. Connery?  
3 BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: No closing comments.  
4 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: I have one closing comment.  
5 I had asked that acting general counsel could do a  
6 search on these closed meetings and determine which ones  
7 of them are still not in the public domain and whether  
8 they should be. So he's going to be doing that, but  
9 it's kind of a housekeeping thing. I think we just put  
10 these off and not realize that at some point they  
11 become -- the reason that we have them closed has become  
12 overcome by events. And so --  
13 MR. GILMAN: Specifically you're talking about  
14 the transcript?  
15 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Transcripts of the closed  
16 meetings.  
17 MR. GILMAN: We are looking into everything, and  
18 just to let you know, Eric is leading that, and he is  
19 limiting it to -- so on the website, I think, or what's  
20 available publicly on the website goes back to, what,  
21 2015?  
22 MR. FOX: That's right, yeah.  
23 MR. GILMAN: And so for the time being, we've  
24 limited it to that. And we're going to create a table  
25 and say, these are the closed meetings we've had and

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1 this is what's released. So sometimes there's a partial  
2 redacted transcript.  
3 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Okay. That's a good start.  
4 BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Did you have practices of  
5 closed meetings when you weren't doing notational  
6 votings? Because you didn't need to, did you?  
7 BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Well, what do you mean  
8 practices of closed meetings?  
9 BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Did you have closed  
10 meetings that were transcribed prior to 2015?  
11 BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: No. Closed meetings  
12 were used rarely prior to 2015. And remember, the  
13 voting started -- the posting of voting started in 2013.  
14 So there wouldn't be much before then for sure.  
15 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Okay. We are adjourned and  
16 off the record.  
17 (Whereupon, at 10:47 a m., the closed meeting  
18 was adjourned.)  
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1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST  
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4 I, Sally Jo Quade, CERT, do hereby certify that  
5 the foregoing proceedings were transcribed by me via  
6 audiotape/CD/WAV file and reduced to typewriting under  
7 my supervision; that I am neither counsel for, related  
8 to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in  
9 which these proceedings were transcribed; and further,  
10 that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or  
11 counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially  
12 or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.  
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17 s/Sally Jo Quade  
18 Sally Jo Quade, CERT  
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