Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

March 24, 2010

The Honorable John E. Mansfield
Vice Chairman
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman:

On January 27, 2010, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) issued a letter with a 60-day reporting requirement on actions to be taken by the Livermore Site Office (LSO) and Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) to address the deficiencies identified by the Board's staff and the NNSA Readiness Assessment (RA) team. These deficiencies revealed weaknesses in the analysis and control of hazards both for the Tritium Processing Station (TPS) and more broadly the Tritium Facility, as well as deficiencies in the Conduct of Operations for the TPS.

This letter transmits a report from LSO and a LLNS Justification for Continued Operation (JCO) approved by LSO that provide the completed and planned actions to address the identified deficiencies.

LSO and LLNS have developed actions to improve the derivation of controls in the Tritium Facility safety basis and to improve the Conduct of Operations. The JCO incorporates additional controls to help ensure worker safety during the completion of the longer term actions. In addition, LSO will have a strong federal presence through Facility Representatives throughout the initial startup and operations of the Tritium Facility and specifically the TPS. Once final, LSO will review the TPS procedures and implementation of Deliberate Operations, discussed in the JCO, to ensure they adequately address the remaining issues raised in your letter.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me or have your staff contact Mr. Jeffry L. Roberson at (202) 586-8245.

Sincerely,

GARRETT HARENCAK, Brig Gen, USAF
Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator
for Military Application
Office of Defense Programs

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Enclosure 1

Enclosure 2

Enclosure 3

cc w/enclosure:
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