



Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Washington, DC 20585



MAY 25 2012

The Honorable Peter S. Winokur  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in reference to your February 28, 2012, letter concerning the Annular Core Research Reactor (ACRR) at the Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). The letter provided the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) concerns with identified weaknesses in the ACRR Documented Safety Analysis. The Board requested a report and briefing addressing the issues identified by your staff and any corrective actions to be taken within 90 days.

The National Nuclear Security Administration and SNL have been coordinating with the Board's staff to ensure all issues are appropriately addressed. An additional 30 days beyond the requested 90 day timeframe is needed to allow the incorporation of feedback from our briefing to the Board on April 26, 2012, and to finalize the written response.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (202) 586-2179 or James McConnell, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Nuclear Safety, Nuclear Operations, and Governance Reform, at (202) 586-4379.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Cook  
Deputy Administrator  
for Defense Programs

cc: M. Campagnone, HS-1.1  
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