



**The Secretary of Energy**  
**Washington, D.C. 20585**

July 29, 2009

The Honorable A. J. Eggenberger  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the latest report in response to your letter dated April 21, 2009, requesting the Department of Energy (DOE) provide the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) a report on actions to be taken to complete the deliverables and ensure conformance to DOE's *Ventilation System Evaluation Guidance*, developed in accordance with DOE's Implementation Plan for DNFSB Recommendation 2004-2, *Confinement Ventilation*.

DOE continues to agree with the DNFSB that active building ventilation confinement systems are normally the preferred alternative when a building confinement safety function is needed to protect the public or collocated workers. To this end, we are refocusing our efforts to complete actions identified in our Implementation Plan for Recommendation 2004-2. The enclosed report provides revised schedules and commitments for completing the remaining deliverables, which we are working to implement in the most responsible way possible for the Department.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. James O'Brien, the Responsible Manager for Recommendation 2004-2, at (301) 903-1408.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Chu".

Steven Chu

Enclosure

