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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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July 10, 2009

Gerald L. Talbot Jr.
Assistant Deputy Administrator for
Nuclear Safety and Operations
National Nuclear Security Administration
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0701

Dear Mr. Talbot:

Pursuant to the certification mandate provided in Section 3112 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board's (Board's) staff responsible for certification activities has reviewed design data for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Project provided to date by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). The Board's staff is focusing its review on topics previously raised regarding the nuclear safety strategy for CMRR, the Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis, and the design of safety-class and safety-significant systems. Those topics were provided electronically to NNSA on November 20, 2008. The staff has documented specific technical issues on a Findings Form. For purposes of the certification review, the staff considers a Finding a design topic related to an issue raised by the staff regarding the CMRR design that has not been adequately resolved and that could preclude certification by the Board.

Finding #5, Design Control - System Design Descriptions Do Not Incorporate Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis Requirements Adequately, was transmitted to your office on March 30, 2009. NNSA provided a response to this Finding on April 21, 2009. The Board's staff has evaluated that response and has determined that Finding # 5 can be considered closed. Enclosed is the completed Findings Form that includes the Board's Final Resolution to Finding #5. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (202) 694-7128.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Kasdorf
Nuclear Facility Design and
Infrastructure Group Lead

Enclosure

c: Mr. Mike Thompson
Mr. James McConnell
Mr. Patrick Rhoads
Mr. Herman LeDoux
Mr. Mark B. Whitaker Jr.