

Sean Sullivan, Chairman
Bruce Hamilton, Vice Chairman
Jessie H. Roberson
Daniel J. Santos
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**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



July 25, 2017

The Honorable James Richard Perry
Secretary of Energy
U. S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Perry:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) periodically communicates our assessment of the progress on each open Recommendation. This communication addresses Board Recommendation 2015-1, *Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Pantex Plant*.

The Department of Energy (DOE) submitted its final set of deliverables to the Board on June 13, 2017. The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Production Office (NPO) has indicated that it will conduct a series of effectiveness reviews to verify actions taken to address the Board's recommendations and that these reviews will require additional time. We expect completion of these effectiveness reviews may reveal whether the emergency preparedness and response deficiencies identified in our recommendation have been addressed effectively.

We look forward to continuing to work with DOE's and NNSA's leadership and staff to effectively address the concerns raised in the Recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Sullivan", written over a horizontal line.

Sean Sullivan
Chairman

c: The Honorable Frank G. Klotz
Mr. Joe Olencz