

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

Dear Secretary Perry:

On December 16, 2015, we communicated several concerns regarding the structural degradation and analysis of the H-Canyon Exhaust Tunnel at the Savannah River Site. H-Canyon is an important asset for the defense nuclear complex as a whole. The ventilation system, including the exhaust tunnel, is a safety-class system that is essential to the safe operation of H-Canyon. We continue to review the results of the Department of Energy's (DOE) concrete characterization tests and analysis performed on concrete core samples of the 221-H Personnel Tunnel walls by the Savannah River Site Construction Materials Testing Laboratory, the Savannah River National Laboratory, and the US Army Corps of Engineers Engineering Research and Development Center. Strength tests performed on several of these concrete cores resulted in values below the concrete design strength. Also, periodic DOE concrete inspections of the H-Canyon Exhaust Tunnel have revealed concrete surface degradation exposing aggregate and steel reinforcement.

We are aware that DOE is pursuing a nonlinear analysis of the tunnel to determine if it can perform its post-seismic safety function. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §2286b(d), the Board requests a written response and a briefing from DOE within 90 days on the path forward to ensure the continued structural integrity of the H-Canyon Exhaust Tunnel at the Savannah River Site or any alternatives being evaluated to replace the exhaust tunnel.

Yours truly,

Bruce Hamilton
Acting Chairman

c: Mr. Joe Olencz

AFFIRMATION OF BOARD VOTING RECORD

SUBJECT: H-Canyon Letter

Doc Control#2018-100-029


The Board, with Board Member(s) Jessie H. Roberson, Daniel J. Santos, Joyce L. Connery *approving*, Board Member(s) Bruce Hamilton *disapproving*, Board Member(s) none *abstaining*, and Board Member(s) none *not participating*, has voted to approve the above document on May 7, 2018.

The votes were recorded as:

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIPATING*	COMMENT	DATE
Bruce Hamilton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	05/04/18
Jessie H. Roberson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/07/18
Daniel J. Santos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/04/18
Joyce L. Connery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	05/04/18

*Reason for Not Participating:

This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Board Members.



Executive Secretary to the Board

Attachments:

1. Voting Summary
2. Board Member Vote Sheets

cc: Board Members
OGC
OGM Records Officer
OTD

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET**

FROM: Bruce Hamilton

SUBJECT: H-Canyon Letter

Doc Control#2018-100-029

Approved _____ Disapproved X Abstain _____

Recusal – Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below X Attached _____ None _____

A "... written response and a briefing from DOE within 90 days on the path forward to ensure the continued structural integrity of the H-Canyon Exhaust Tunnel at the Savannah River Site or any alternatives being evaluated to replace the exhaust tunnel ..." will not enhance the Board's understanding of the current situation at H-Canyon regarding the adequate protection of the public health and safety.

I therefore disapprove.

Bruce Hamilton

Bruce Hamilton

05/04/2018

Date

Member voted by email dated May 04, 2018

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET

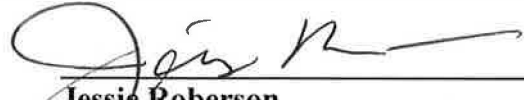
FROM: Jessie Roberson

SUBJECT: H-Canyon Letter

Doc Control#2018-100-029

Approved Disapproved _____ Abstain _____
Recusal – Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below _____ Attached _____ None



Jessie Roberson
May 7, 2018

Date

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET

FROM: Daniel J. Santos


SUBJECT: H-Canyon Letter

Doc Control#2018-100-029

Approved X Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Recusal – Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below _____ Attached _____ None X



Daniel J. Santos
5/4/18

Date

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET**

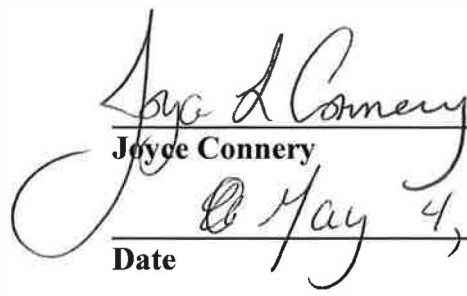
FROM: Joyce Connery

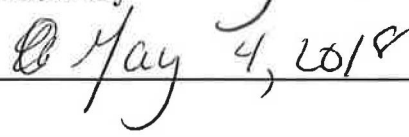
SUBJECT: H-Canyon Letter

Doc Control#2018-100-029

Approved **Disapproved** **Abstain**
Recusal – Not Participating

COMMENTS: **Below** **Attached** **None**



Joyce Connery


Date