

Joyce L. Connery, Chair  
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair  
Jessie H. Roberson

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES  
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



October 11, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Granholm:

On September 26, 2023, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) received the Department's "Benchmark Review Final Report for Aging Infrastructure Management." This report is intended to satisfy Deliverable 5.1.2 of the Department's Implementation Plan in response to the Board's Recommendation 2020-1, *Nuclear Safety Requirements*.

Based on a preliminary evaluation of this Implementation Plan deliverable and other ongoing staff review activities, the Board remains concerned that DOE benchmarking efforts overstate the adequacy of existing requirements and the effectiveness of currently implemented aging management processes.

In the interest of continuing productive engagement with the Department on this vital issue, the Board is considering a suite of near-term actions including additional correspondence and/or public hearings to better characterize existing weaknesses and highlight potential improvements to aging infrastructure management across the DOE complex.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce L. Connery".

Joyce L. Connery  
Chair

c: Mr. Joe Olencz  
Mr. Garrett Smith

**CUI//PRIVILEGE**

**APPENDIX 4**

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION BY A BOARD MEMBER**

Requester: Joyce Connery

**Brief description of Requested Action:**

**Request for Board Action by Chair Joyce L. Connery to approve sending the attached letter on Aging Infrastructure to the Secretary of Energy.**

Attachments (init): 1

Summarize any time sensitive considerations: None.

Requestor signature on file October 10, 2023

Assistant Executive secretary on file October 10, 2023

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	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIPATING	COMMENT	DATE
Joyce L. Connery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Thomas Summers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jessie H. Roberson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**Final Disposition Summary**

Executive Secretary signature \_\_\_\_\_ October 10, 2023

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**AFFIRMATION OF BOARD VOTING RECORD**

**SUBJECT:** RFBA by Chair Joyce Connery to approve sending the attached letter on Aging Infrastructure

**Doc Control#:** 2023-300-0016

The Board acted on the above document on 10/10/2023. The document was Approved.

The votes were recorded as:

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIPATING	COMMENT	DATE
Joyce L. Connery	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10/10/2023
Thomas Summers	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10/10/2023
Jessie H. Roberson	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10/10/2023

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

**Shelby Qualls**

Executive Secretary to the Board

Attachments:

1. Voting Summary
2. Board Member Vote Sheets

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

**NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET**

**FROM:** Joyce L. Connery

**SUBJECT:** RFBA by Chair Joyce Connery to approve sending the attached letter on Aging Infrastructure

**Doc Control#:** 2023-300-0016

**DATE:** 10/10/2023

**VOTE:** Approved

**COMMENTS:**

None

**Joyce L. Connery**

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

**NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET**

**FROM:** Thomas Summers

**SUBJECT:** RFBA by Chair Joyce Connery to approve sending the attached letter on Aging Infrastructure

**Doc Control#:** 2023-300-0016

**DATE:** 10/10/2023

**VOTE:** Approved

**COMMENTS:**

None

**Thomas Summers**

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

**NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET**

**FROM:** Jessie H. Roberson

**SUBJECT:** RFBA by Chair Joyce Connery to approve sending the attached letter on Aging Infrastructure

**Doc Control#:** 2023-300-0016

**DATE:** 10/10/2023

**VOTE:** Approved

**Member voted by email.**

**COMMENTS:**

None

**Jessie H. Roberson**