

Joyce L. Connery, Chair
Thomas A. Summers, Vice Chair

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



February 20, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Granholm:

On December 5, 2023, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that noted safety concerns with two key proposed changes to DOE Order 425.1D, *Verification of Readiness to Start Up or Restart Nuclear Facilities*. The Board requested a report and briefing from DOE within 45 days regarding DOE's path forward on the revision to the order.

On January 31, 2024, DOE conveyed its need for an additional 90 days to evaluate and coordinate its response to the Board's concerns. The Board has no objection to DOE's request for a 90-day extension. The Board is pleased to hear that DOE intends to provide its response prior to issuing the revised order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce L. Connery". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Joyce L. Connery
Chair

c: Mr. Todd LaPointe, Director, Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security
Mr. Joe Olencz, Director, Office of the Departmental Representative to the Board



AFFIRMATION OF BOARD VOTING RECORD

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Joyce L. Connery - Directive for DOE Order 425.1

Doc Control#: 2024-100-0012

The Board acted on the above document on 03/04/2024. The document was Approved.

The votes were recorded as:

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIPATING	COMMENT	DATE
Joyce L. Connery		<input data-bbox="483 680 516 716" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="638 680 670 716" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="824 680 857 716" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="1024 680 1057 716" type="checkbox"/>	02/20/2024
Thomas Summers		<input data-bbox="483 720 516 756" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="638 720 670 756" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="824 720 857 756" type="checkbox"/>	<input data-bbox="1024 720 1057 756" type="checkbox"/>	02/20/2024

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 L. Connery - Directive for DOE Order 425.1

Doc Control#: 2024-100-0012

DATE: 02/20/2024

VOTE: Approved

COMMENTS:

None

Joyce L. Connery

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
NOTATIONAL VOTE RESPONSE SHEET

FROM: Thomas Summers

SUBJECT: RFBA by Chair Joyce L. Connery - Directive for DOE Order 425.1

Doc Control#: 2024-100-0012

DATE: 02/20/2024

VOTE: Approved

COMMENTS:

None

Thomas Summers