In the Matter of:

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

November 28, 2018 Public Hearing

Condensed Transcript with Word Index



Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

11/28/2018

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1			1	PROCEEDINGS
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3	DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFET	Y BOARD	3	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Good morning. My name is
4			4	Bruce Hamilton, and I am the Chairman of the Defense
5			5	Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. I will preside over
6			6	this morning's public hearing. I now call this hearing
7			7	into order.
8	SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON T	HE	8	I would like to introduce my colleagues on the
9	DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S INTER	FACE	9	Board. To my left is Board Member Daniel Santos; to my
10	WITH THE		10	immediate right is Board Member Joyce Connery; two seats
11	DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFE	TY BOARD	11	to my right is Board member Jessie Roberson. We four
12			12	constitute the Board.
13			13	The Board's acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph
14			14	Gilman, is seated to my far right. Several leaders and
15	November 28, 2018		15	members of the Board's staff who are closely involved
16	10:00 a.m.		16	with oversight of the Department of Energy's Defense
17			17	Nuclear Facilities are also here.
18			18	This hearing is the second of three public
19	Defense Nuclear Facilities Safe	ty Board	19	hearings planned by the Board to gather information
20	625 Indiana Avenue, NW		20	regarding the objectives and implementation of
21	Washington, DC 20004		21	Department of Energy Order 140.1, Interface with the
22			22	Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.
23			23	Specifically, we will obtain information on the
24			24	Board's access to information, facilities and personnel,
25			25	and on potential impacts to the Board's Resident
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1	I N D E X	2	1	Inspector Program. The first hearing was held here on
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2 3	Session 1:	Page:	2 3	Inspector Program. The first hearing was held here on August 28th, 2018, and the third hearing will be held in New Mexico some time in February.
2 3 4	Session 1: Chairman's Opening Remarks	Page: 3	2 3 4	Inspector Program. The first hearing was held here on August 28th, 2018, and the third hearing will be held in New Mexico some time in February. The Board's enabling legislation contained
2 3 4 5	Session 1: Chairman's Opening Remarks Board Member Remarks	Page: 3 7	2 3 4 5	Inspector Program. The first hearing was held here on August 28th, 2018, and the third hearing will be held in New Mexico some time in February. The Board's enabling legislation contained within the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, defines this
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1	discuss those changes with Department leadership.	1	and regulate the course of this hearing; to recess,
2	In the first session today, the Board will hear	2	reconvene, postpone or adjourn this proceeding; and
3	testimony from DOE Office of Environmental Management	3	otherwise to exercise our authority under the Atomic
4	personnel regarding changes contained in the order,	4	Energy Act of 1954, as amended.
5	including the Board's access to information, facilities	5	This concludes my opening remarks as Chairman.
6	and personnel, and potential impacts to the Board's	6	I will now turn to my fellow Board members for their
7	Resident Inspector Program. In the second session,	7	opening remarks. Ms. Roberson?
8	members of the public may provide comments.	8	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9	The Board announced this morning's hearing on	9	I do not have an opening statement.
10	October 24th, 2018 on its public website and	10	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Santos?
11	subsequently posted a notice in the Federal Register on	11	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
12	November 7th, 2018. To ensure accurate and timely	12	Thank you our fellow Board members. Good
13	information, this hearing is being videostreamed live,	13	morning, Assistant Secretary White, welcome. Thank you
14	as well as recorded through video recording and a	14	for accepting our invitation. Mr. Mullis, welcome.
15	verbatim transcript. The transcript, associated	15	Mr. Crawford, good to see you back, welcome. Thanks for
16	documents, public notice and video recording will be	16	being here.
17	available for viewing on our public website. The Board	17	Other distinguished guests, stakeholders and
18	will make the video recording available on its website	18	members of the public today in attendance or following
19	for at least 60 days.	19	today's hearing online, as I stated in the last public
20	Per the Board's practice, and as stated in the	20	hearing, the Board has a very important role in ensuring
21	agenda, we will welcome comments from interested members	21	public health and safety. We provide confidence and
22	of the public at approximately 11:30. A list of those	22	transparency to the American people through our
23	speakers who have contacted us is posted at the entrance	23	independent and continuous nuclear safety oversight that
24	to this room. In general, we have listed the speakers	24	the programs of the Department of Energy execute their
25	in the order which they contacted us, or if possible,	25	important operational missions safely and that they do
	6		8
1	when they wished to speak. We will call the speakers in	1	not become complacent in their responsibilities to
2	this order and ask that each speaker state his or her	2	protect the American people against undue risk from
3	name and affiliation, if any, at the beginning of the	3	radiation in the activities performed at DOE Defense
4	presentation.	4	Nuclear Facilities.
5	Members of the public who wish to provide	5	For the Board to be effective, and add value in
6	comments but did not have an opportunity to notify us	6	ensuring public health and safety, it is paramount that
7	ahead of time may indicate their desire to comment on	7	the Secretary of Energy, as operator and regulator of
8	the sign-up sheet on the table at the entrance to this	8	Defense Nuclear Facilities, fully cooperates with the
9	room. They will speak in the order which they sign up,	9	Board and provide the Board with ready access to
10	following those who have preregistered.	10	facilities, personnel and information as the Board
11	To give everyone wishing to make a presentation	11 12	considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities.
12 13	an equal opportunity, we ask speakers to limit their comments to 10 minutes. The information presented	12	Without this ready access and cooperation from the Department of Energy, we would not be timely in
13	should be limited to comments, technical information or	13	performing our statutory duties. It's that simple.
15	data concerning the subject of this hearing. The Board	15	Since issuance of Order 140.1, it is clear based on our
16	members may question anyone providing comments to the	16	independent oversight that the implementation of 140.1
17	extent members deem appropriate.	17	is lagging or that the order is not being implemented as
18	The record of this hearing will remain open	18	written or consistently throughout the Department of
19	until December 28, 2018. Until that date, members of	19	Energy.
20	the public, including those observing today's hearing	20	The new order has generated some confusion and
21	live via videostreaming, may submit a written statement	21	resulted in some delay accessing some information. For
22	to the Board to be included in the record. Contact	22	example, information associated with a criticality
23	information for submitting statements is available on	23	database at Los Alamos. However, as of today, my
24	our website, DNFSB.gov.	24	understanding is that the Department of Energy continues
25	The Board reserves the right to further schedule	25	to eventually provide the information the Board deems

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1	necessary to accomplish its mission.	1	the Board, the Department has issued an order that
2	Furthermore, it is not clear whether or not the	2	doesn't simply codify the status quo of interactions
3	current state is going to change or if the information	3	between the Board and the Department, but changes the
4	will be provided to the Board in a timely manner. Since	4	interactions significantly in our view, and seems to
5	our last public hearing, on September 17th, 2018, the	5	endeavor to limit the Board's access and authorities to
6	Board sent a letter to the Secretary of Energy regarding	6	Defense Nuclear Facilities.
7	Order 140.1, where we describe our specific concerns and	7	Therefore, my first question is, why? What
8	express our willingness to collaborate on appropriate	8	problem are we trying to solve?
9	revisions to better establish the interface between the	9	My second question has to do with any changes in
10	two Federal agencies.	10	expectations in the Department's view on how we do
11	As of today, the Board has not received any	11	business, and specifically, Ms. White, I would be
12	formal response from the Department of Energy. About	12	interested to know during the course of the hearing
13	the same time, on September 12th, 2018, the Board	13	today if there are any changes that you envision, either
14	unanimously approved that the DNFSB staff generate a	14	positive or negative, as a result of the issuance of
15	redline strikeout version of DOE Order 140.1 containing	15	this order and the full implementation.
16	specific revisions that the staff considers necessary to	16	And, finally, I want to understand your
17	address all the concerns with the order.	17	philosophy on safety. We see a number of trends within
18	This document has been delivered to the Board.	18	the Department as a whole in making changes to its
19	This document, as well as the information gained from	19	safety strategy, including a rewrite of 10 C.F.R. 830,
20	this series of public hearings, and our experiences with	20	the Federal Rule on Nuclear Safety, which is in
21	ready and timely access to Defense Nuclear Facilities	21	rulemaking now, and also some of the associated
22	personnel and information, will enable the Board to	22	standards are also in the process of being revised.
23	identify and propose further actions that will ensure	23	There seems to be some connection to the
24	the Board can continue to ensure adequate protection of	24	elements within Order 140.1 and DOE's own efforts to
25	public health and safety.	25	have a graded approach to nuclear safety, and I would
	10		12
1	This concludes my opening statement. Thank you.	1	like to understand the Department's overall intentions
2	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Santos.	2	when it comes to that.
3	Ms. Connery?	3	With that, thank you again for taking the time
4	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you, Mr. Hamilton.	4	to come here today. I appreciate the magnitude of your
5	I want to thank Assistant Secretary White for taking the	5	day-to-day job and I take your presence here as an
6	time today to come talk to us. This is our second	6	indication of your dedication to the health and safety
7	hearing on Order 140.1, and we didn't have the	7	of your workers and the public. I look forward to your
8	opportunity to speak with the Office of Environmental	8	remarks.
9	Management during the last hearing, so we thought it was	9	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Ms. Connery.
10	important to do so today, given the number of Defense	10	I want to make a couple of personal remarks.
11	Nuclear Facilities under your purview and the importance	11	First of all, I will formally introduce you in just a
12	of the work you do within the complex and its impact on	12	moment, Ms. White, but before I do so, I personally want
13	the surrounding communities.	13	to thank you for being here today. As you are aware,
14	We posed many questions with regard to this	14	DOE 140.1, Order 140.1 is a contentious issue. It's a contentious topic. But I want to assure you that the
15			contentious tonic - But I want to assure you that the
	order, the Department's intent, the expectations for the	15	· ·
16	execution of the order, and ultimately the impact that	16	questions today are not intended to be argumentative or
16 17	execution of the order, and ultimately the impact that full implementation of this order on nuclear safety. We	16 17	questions today are not intended to be argumentative or confrontational or in any way to try to find some
16 17 18	execution of the order, and ultimately the impact that full implementation of this order on nuclear safety. We proposed those questions to Mr. Moury and Mr. White, no	16 17 18	questions today are not intended to be argumentative or confrontational or in any way to try to find some differences between what you say and what other DOE
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16 17 18 19 20 21	execution of the order, and ultimately the impact that full implementation of this order on nuclear safety. We proposed those questions to Mr. Moury and Mr. White, no relation, during our last hearing, and I don't want to take up a lot of time right now, but I do want to revisit briefly the main questions that I have for the	16 17 18 19 20 21	questions today are not intended to be argumentative or confrontational or in any way to try to find some differences between what you say and what other DOE officials have said. Likewise, the purpose of today's hearing is not to present arguments or critiques; rather, we are here
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Public Hearing

3 (Pages 9 to 12)

Public Hearing

11/28/2018

13 15 1 At this time, I will formally introduce the 1 vital to DOE ensuring adequate protection of public 2 2 panel for the first section. This includes the health and safety of the Department's Defense Nuclear 3 honorable Ms. Ann White, Assistant Secretary for the 3 Facilities and Operations. We have and shall continue 4 Office of Environmental Management, Mr. John Mullis, 4 to benefit from your technical expertise, insights and 5 Manager of the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental recommendations. 5 Management, and Mr. Chris Roscetti, our Technical 6 6 I must affirm that as the secretarial officer 7 7 Director here at the Defense Board. We are pleased to charged with the safe operations of the Environmental 8 8 have you, Ms. White and Mr. Mullis, today. Thank you. Management Program, I take full responsibility for that 9 Welcome to our public hearing. Ms. White, I 9 safety for which Congress and the public holds us 10 accountable. I am affirming my commitment to carry out 10 understand that you wish to provide an opening remark, our mission as a Federal program office in safe, secure 11 so the floor is yours. 11 12 and environmentally responsible way. The Department is 12 ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Good morning. I 13 dedicated to providing reasonable assurance of 13 welcome the opportunity to provide opening remarks for 14 protection of the public health and safety, protecting this session at today's public hearing on the 14 15 the health and safety of our workers, and accepting full 15 Department's interface with the Board. I want to thank responsibility for any and all outcomes of our efforts. the Board for this opportunity for open and transparent 16 16 17 The Board provides valuable insight and advice 17 discussions. I also want to introduce Mr. Jav Mullis, 18 our Oak Ridge site manager for EM. 18 that the Department both appreciates and takes into 19 consideration, but ultimately, DOE cannot abdicate our 19 Since my Senate confirmation, I have had the responsibility to manage the risks associated with our 20 pleasure of meeting with the Board members and look 20 21 forward to a continued strong working relationship with 21 facilities and operate in an appropriate and 22 conscientious fashion. Our work is critical to lowering 22 the Board. At the first hearing related to this order, 23 the environmental risk posed by the legacy of the Cold 23 Board Member Roberson made a comment that I found 24 War. 24 particularly resonant. She stated, "The Board hopes the 25 EM line management must be held accountable and 25 Department doesn't see the Board as competitive, but 14 16 1 complementary to ensuring safety." I wholeheartedly 1 we must have clear roles and responsibilities to ensure 2

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2 agree with that statement and will work to create that

3 environment, not only at this hearing, but also as we

4 progress the EM cleanup mission. 5

I am here to offer my perspectives on the 6

interface of the Board with the Department of Energy and 7 the intended changes from the transition from the former

8 DOE Manual to Order 140.1. I will focus my perspectives

9 on this interface as they relate to the Office of

10 Environmental Management.

11 At the previous hearing, the Board heard from 12 the Deputy Secretary, the Associate Undersecretary for

13 Environment Health and Safety, and the Chief of Staff 14 for NNSA.

15 At that hearing, much of the basis and process 16 for developing the order was discussed. As you recall, the Deputy Secretary of Energy issued a memorandum in 17 October of 2017 addressing the Department's relationship 18 19 with the Board, which provides expectations for how the 20 Department will interact with the Board and its staff. 21 EM fully supports those expectations. 22 I firmly believe that although the Board and the 23 Department are independent agencies, we mutually serve

- 24 beneficial and essential functions in that the Board's
- 25 independent analysis, advice and recommendations are

this is the case. These are guiding principles ingrained in how we do work safely. To that end, it is important for there to be clear distinction between the responsibility associated with our ownership of our Defense Nuclear Facilities, and the role of external advisors, including the Board.

8 The DOE order, which the Department issued in 9 May of this year to supercede an outdated manual, is 10 consistent with governing legislation and it does not hinder cooperation with the Board or prevent the Board 12 from providing independent analysis, advice and recommendations to the Secretary to ensure adequate 13 14 protection of public health and safety of the 15 Department's Defense Nuclear Facilities.

The order provides direction to DOE personnel and not the Board personnel, and therefore cannot act to limit the Board's access and conduct of their charged tasks. At the working level, within EM, we have continued to conduct routine interface with the Board staff, as we have done for many years. I am not aware of any impairments to the ability of EM or Board staff to provide information or discuss issues, regardless of the hazard category, or the Safety-Class Control status. Regarding adequate protection of the public

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1	health and safety, this is our primary point of	1	information needed to carry out the Board's mission
2	interface and should be the focus of our interactions	2	consistent with your legislative mandate. For example,
3	and partnership. DOE Federal and contractor employees	3	in FY 2018, approximately 2,000 requests for information
4	are highly experienced and trained to execute their work	4	were made by the Board and satisfied by DOE. A thousand
5	in and around the hazards posed by our work. Their	5	of those requests were made and satisfied since the May
6	safety is the focus of our training programs and	6	2018 issuance of the order.
7	multiple requirements established by our governing	7	We will proactively engage with the Board and
8	regulations, directives, standards and procedures.	8	staff so that we fully understand the basis and
9	While we value your advice on these matters,	9	underlying analysis behind its advice, or its draft
10	this should never detract from our shared focus on	10	recommendations, including the safety benefits it sees
11	protecting public health and safety. We will continue	11	for Defense Nuclear Facilities.
12	to engage in dialogue related to worker health and	12	Lastly, we will reinforce with DOE line managers
13	safety, and will appropriately consider advice, whether	13	the expectation that they make sound technical decisions
14	formal or informal, as we have in the past, and we do	14	drawing upon reasonably available information, including
15	from many sources, including the Board.	15	advice and observation from the Board.
16	On the issue of access to draft or predecisional	16	Thank you again for inviting me today, and I am
17	information, we reserve the right to control information	17	looking forward to having a discussion with you.
18	in the predecisional phase. I believe it is a	18	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Ms. White.
19	potentially ineffective use of our mutually limited	19	The Board will now proceed with questions from
20	resources to pursue interim staff positions that may not	20	the panel. I will begin with the first question to our
21	ultimately be relevant or implemented. Further, it is	21	Technical Director, Mr. Roscetti. Could you summarize
22	necessary for us to work through an internal	22	for us the first public hearing that we had in August,
23	deliberative process to develop our decisions prior to	23	and the ensuing letter that the Board sent to the
24	sharing them with others.	24	Secretary of Energy on September 17th of 2018 regarding
25	This will ensure our subject matter experts can	25	DOE 140.1 and the Interface Manual.
	18		20
1	freely offer ideas and conceptual solutions, as well as	1	MR. ROSCETTI: Yes, sir. Thank you,
2	ensuring our accountability and ownership of the	2	Mr. Chairman.
3	resulting decisions. We will consider and share this	3	On August 28th, 2018, the Board held its first
4	information on a case-by-case basis if we believe the	4	public hearing concerning Department of Energy Order
5	information is mature enough to make the interaction	5	140.1. Deputy Secretary Brouillette provided a
6	valuable.	6	statement and Mr. Ike White, Mr. Matt Moury and I
7	Finally, concerning oversight of Hazard Category	7	responded to Board questions on the developmental
8	3 Defense Nuclear Facilities. We note that in	8	impacts and implementation of the order. In addition,
9	accordance with the definition of Hazard Category 3,	9	the Board heard comments from several public
10	these facilities do not, by definition, pose a risk to	10	stakeholders who all expressed concern with the order.
11	public health and safety. While we welcome your review	11	In their lines of inquiry, Board members focused
12	and comment to help ensure these facilities are properly	12	on the specific language used in the order compared to
13	categorized, as stated earlier, this interaction should	13	the Atomic Energy Act, and how the order could be
14	not detract from our focus on facilities with higher	14	interpreted and implemented across the complex.
15	hazard categorization which could pose a risk to public	15	Mr. White and Mr. Moury in their testimony discussed the
16	health and safety, and should be our joint focus.	16	training they provided to Department personnel to ensure
17	Looking to the future, here are some of the	17	the intention of the order was clear, and to ensure
18	things that myself and the Department are committed to	18	consistent implementation.
19	carrying out: I will continue to perform my role as	19	For instance, Mr. White stated, and I quote, "I
20	facility owner and regulator, as well as steward for the	20	led a training session for our field office managers,
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21	taxpayer in safely achieving the cleanup missions	21	for our plants, for our laboratories, for our points of
22	taxpayer in safely achieving the cleanup missions mandated by law to protect the public and lower the	22	contact, to make sure that it was clear to them that we
22 23	taxpayer in safely achieving the cleanup missions mandated by law to protect the public and lower the environmental liability for the country.	22 23	contact, to make sure that it was clear to them that we intended to continue to provide the Board and its staff
22 23 24	taxpayer in safely achieving the cleanup missions mandated by law to protect the public and lower the environmental liability for the country. DOE will continue to cooperate closely with the	22 23 24	contact, to make sure that it was clear to them that we intended to continue to provide the Board and its staff with ready access to all our nuclear facilities."
22 23	taxpayer in safely achieving the cleanup missions mandated by law to protect the public and lower the environmental liability for the country.	22 23	contact, to make sure that it was clear to them that we intended to continue to provide the Board and its staff

Public Hearing

5 (Pages 17 to 20)

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

	21		2:
1	approach. For instance, Board Member Connery stated,	1	nuclear material, and risk reduction in access to
2	and I quote, "Mr. White, the training seems to	2	Defense Nuclear Facilities, which are the heart of your
3	contradict what's in the order. So I would suggest that	3	program. And I know you touched on some of these in
4	perhaps you align the order with how you're going to	4	your opening statement, but I just want to ask a series
5	implement."	5	of questions, and you can elaborate as you feel free.
6	The Board in its September 17th, 2018 letter to	6	First of all, to you, Assistant Secretary White,
7	the Secretary of Energy stated that the first public	7	can you describe your organization's perspective on EM's
8	hearing confirmed that the Board's "apprehension that	8	relationship with the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety
9	DOE Order 140.1 wrongly attempts to diminish the Board's	9	Board members and members of the Board staff prior to
10	ability to perform its statutory mandate under the	10	the implementation of DOE Order 140.1?
11	Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended."	11	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I believe it's been
12	Regarding the differences in Order 140.1	12	a sound and productive relationship throughout the years
13	compared with the prior Interface Manual, I request	13	of EM. I personally called the field to discuss any
14	Exhibit 1 to be entered into the record, which	14	impacts or negative consequences since the order was put
15	summarizes the major changes. These changes were	15	into place, and the relationships continue to be strong,
16	discussed at the August 28th public hearing and will be	16	productive and very helpful.
17	discussed during the course of today's public hearing,	17	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Is there anything you
18	and include: The Department's new definition of public	18	expect needs to change in the relationship as a result
19	health and safety to include only individuals beyond the	19	of the order? Is there something EM thinks needed to
20	site boundaries; the Department's new restriction on	20	change as a result of the order?
21	access to information for Hazard Category 3 and	21	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: There really has
22	Radiological Defense Nuclear Facilities; the	22	been no change at the work base, and to me, that's where
23	Department's new restrictions on access to deliberative	23	the rubber meets the road, in the field where our
24	documents, predecisional documents or deliberative	24	mission is getting delivered. And as I say, I
25	meetings; the Department's new requirements for	25	personally called the sites to find out the status and
	22		24
1	contractors to refer all requests for information or	1	how the working relationship was going, and was told
2	access related to Defense Nuclear Facilities to		
		2	resoundingly, it's good.
3	Departmental site liaison for determinations regarding	2 3	resoundingly, it's good. BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So has the Board's
	Departmental site liaison for determinations regarding response, and only to respond when formally tasked by		
3		3	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So has the Board's
3 4	response, and only to respond when formally tasked by	3 4	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So has the Board's independent safety oversight inhibited your ability to achieve your operational goals or for you to ensure
3 4 5	response, and only to respond when formally tasked by the Departmental site liaison.	3 4 5	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So has the Board's independent safety oversight inhibited your ability to
3 4 5 6	response, and only to respond when formally tasked by the Departmental site liaison. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Roscetti.	3 4 5 6	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So has the Board's independent safety oversight inhibited your ability to achieve your operational goals or for you to ensure safety measures were in place to address operational execution of your mission?
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Public Hearing

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1	process, we actually have to formally ask the contractor	1	the Board an opportunity to review how well we're doing
2	what putting that into if there's a change or an	2	things all on our own. So there's some benefit in that.
3	impact with putting it in the contract and from our	3	But I cannot imagine a situation where we end up at
4	major D&D contractors there, we've all gotten back that	4	loggerheads, quite frankly. We've always had a good
5	there's no change. So from their perspective as well,	5	relationship.
6	there is no impact as to how we operate at Oak Ridge.	6	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Yeah, I would agree with
7	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Thank you.	7	that. The challenge that I'm trying to understand is
8	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Just for the record,	8	how this language could affect that in the future. So
9	Mr. Mullis, you used the phrase "site representatives,"	9	that's the basis for my question.
10	we actually have resident inspectors.	10	Ms. Connery?
11	MR. MULLIS: Yes, sir.	11	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So just a little bit of
12	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: It was not something that	12	followup to that last point on the predecisional
13	was your mistake, we used to call them site	13	information. You said it's helpful for us to see how
14	representatives, but the Atomic Energy Act specifically	14	you guys take care of it yourselves. My challenge is if
15	refers to the authority to have resident inspectors.	15	we're not in the room to see that interaction, it's hard
16	And so in cleaning up our own shop, we went back to the	16	for us to judge and assess whether or not, you know, the
17	correct title per the legislation a couple of years ago.	17	Department is doing its job both as regulator, as
18	MR. MULLIS: Yes, sir.	18	enforcer, in its own oversight.
19	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: And I know you know that.	19	So some of the tension, I think, comes from the
20	MR. MULLIS: I misspoke on that.	20	fact that predecisional is nebulous in the order and
21	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: It's easy to do, because our	21	could be interpreted in several ways. But I just wanted
22	staff does it all the time. Thirty years of bad habit.	22	to make that point, because I understand that you don't
23	Ms. White, I would like to discuss some language	23	want us to go down rabbit holes, if your staff hasn't
24	in the order, and I'll read what the Atomic Energy Act	24	fully decided on a technical course of action, but how
25	says. It says, "The Secretary will provide 'ready	25	it goes through that decisionmaking process, for
	26		28
1	access to such facilities, personnel and information as	1	instance, is important to us so that we can actually see
2	the Board considers necessary to carry out its	2	whether or not if there are dissents among your
3	responsibilities'." In the order, the phrase "as the	3	technical staff, how that's addressed and adjudicated is
4	Board considers necessary" is conspicuously absent. So	4	how we evaluate whether or not there's a healthy safety
5	that's just a little background.	5	culture, et cetera.
6	The order states that the Secretary or	6	So that's kind of why we're questioning that,
7	Secretary's designee may deny access to information	7	not necessarily to say that anyone at the Department is
8	requested by the Board. To your knowledge, has the	8	saying, no, we don't know.
9	Secretary delegated any authority to deny access to the	9	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Right. And, you
10	Board, or how is that supposed to work? Do you know?	10	know, we have a very healthy process for resolving
11			
		1	
12	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I'm not aware of any	11	differences of technical opinions that is formalized,
12 13	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I'm not aware of any delegation of that authority.	11 12	differences of technical opinions that is formalized, and it's been used on many occasions. And in my
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Public Hearing

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1	Safety-Class Controls.	1	Controls, but obviously it's of vital importance to the
2	So I'm going to ask first Mr. Roscetti to	2	nation and it's of great concern to the public and
3	discuss the implications of the order as written to the	3	stakeholders.
4	Board's access based, again, just on the language and	4	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So, again, according
5	the exemptions that are in the order, to not talk about	5	to the field, the relationship has not changed. We have
6	where we are now, but what the problems that we see with	6	no intent to limit the Board's access to information
7	the order and where they could be implemented later on.	7	that you need to carry out your missions and mandates.
8	Mr. Roscetti?	8	Information requested by the Board to conduct its
9	MR. ROSCETTI: Yes, ma'am. To help answer your	9	mission will continue to be provided in accordance with
10	question, I request Exhibit 2 be entered into the	10	the law.
11	record. And I'll reiterate, as you did in your	11	And importantly, too, as I've mentioned, the
12	question, that my answer is predicated on the fact that	12	working relationship in the field is very important, and
13	this is a reading of the words in the order.	13	it's been successful, and it continues to be successful.
14	So this exhibit was shared at the last public	14	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: I appreciate that. So a
15	hearing and represents the staff's analysis of candidate	15	follow-on question, and again, it goes to something that
16	Defense Nuclear Facilities across the complex, broken	16	you said in your opening remarks, which is how would you
17	down by potential restrictions as described in the Order	17	respond if the Board provided a communication in the
18	140.1. Reading the words in the order, the Board's	18	form of a letter or a recommendation related to a
19	access could be limited to just those facilities with	19	Defense Nuclear Facility without a Safety-Class Control;
20	Safety-Class Controls as indicated by the red arrow on	20	or, for instance, if we wanted to hold a hearing on how
21	the slide representing a 71 percent reduction in the	21	we could use our statutory authority to give you a
22	number of candidate Defense Nuclear Facilities.	22	recommendation with regards to a facility?
23 24	Next I request Exhibit 3 be entered into the	23	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I'm sure we would
24 25	record. It further illustrates the impacts of the order's restrictions by site. For the purposes of	24 25	not reject them.
	order's restrictions by site. For the purposes of	23	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you.
	30		32
1	today's public hearing, sites with EM Defense Nuclear	1	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Yep.
2	Facilities are starred. The green bars represent the	2	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Mr. Mullis, the recent
3	total number of candidate Defense Nuclear Facilities at	3	issue with waste drums in Idaho highlights the potential
4	a given site. The red bars represent only the Hazard	4	hazards associated with storage and processing of
5	Category 1 and 2 Defense Nuclear Facilities with	5	transuranic waste at the DOE's facilities. Transuranic
6	Safety-Class Controls. You can see a large drop in the	6	waste storage areas at Oak Ridge National Lab don't have
7	number of facilities at all EM sites. Notably the Waste	7	Safety-Class Controls. What information or access will
8	Isolation Pilot Plant does not have any Safety-Class	8	EM provide to the Board and its staff concerning these
9 10	Controls. BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So, Ms. White, again, as	10	facilities, and what value do you see that the Board and its staff can give to you to perform this oversight at
11	we talked about, or as you talked about in your opening	11	these facilities?
12	statement, you want to make sure that the Board and the	12	MR. MULLIS: So for all the EM managed
13	Department are focused on the highest priority issues	13	facilities to store TRU Waste at Oak Ridge National
14	that impact the public health and safety; however, we	14	Laboratory, you've always enjoyed your resident
15	also have to make sure that the public has reasonable	15	inspectors have always enjoyed access to that. And, in
16	assurance of public health and safety, and sometimes	16	fact, all along have given us suggestions,
17	that doesn't equate to Safety-Class Controls or the	17	recommendations, et cetera, that have actually
18	Hazard Categories as designated by the Department.	18	strengthened the operations out there. So I don't see
19	So I'm interested if you could discuss how EM is	19	how this is going to change that at all.
20	going to implement the language in the order when	20	So I think within the last month and a half, in
21	supporting the Board and the Board staff's access to	21	fact, one of your Dinesh came down and toured the
22	information regarding facilities that don't have	22	facility and got the information he wanted. So I
23	Safety-Class Controls. And the example that	23	haven't seen that change over the years.
24	Mr. Roscetti pointed out is that WIPP is a Haz Cat 2	24	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you.
25	Defense Nuclear Facility, it doesn't have Safety-Class	25	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Santos has a follow-on

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	to this line of inquiry and then his own question.	1	to preclude the Board from doing your job.
2	Mr. Santos?	2	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Can you give me a little
3	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: I appreciate the work and	3	bit on time-wise for implementation? When do you
4	I have seen it since I have been at the Board of the	4	expect
5	collaboration, and the working relationships, and that's	5	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I would have to get
6	my hope that they continue, and that they do not change.	6	back with you on that. That's something that the staff
7	I welcome and I'm very supportive of if there's areas	7	is taking care of, and as I understand it, it's been
8	that may be of impact that we have a transparent and	8	completed.
9	productive dialogue.	9	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: I appreciate that we can
10	The thing that gave me pause a little bit is if	10	get that for the record later.
11	that's the case, and if those are some foundation of	11	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Sure. Absolutely.
12	things that we agreed on, why wasn't that level of	12	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you so much.
13	cooperation and working together just to come up with an	13	Mr. Mullis, a similar question, but at Oak
14	order that defines the interface?	14	Ridge, can you describe some of the implementation
15	So if we talk about we want to collaborate, we	15	efforts to date?
16	want to be transparent and we want to work issues out,	16	MR. MULLIS: Sure. So my staff and myself
17	why can't we do that starting with this order? So	17	participated in the rollout of the Order and the
18	that's the part that makes me really skeptical and	18	subsequent training, and unless we get direction from
19	question is anything going to change. I want to be	19	headquarters, there's kind of a standard process we go
20	welcoming the dialogue, but we didn't get to participate	20	through with each one of our contractors. We have
21	in the development of the Order, that gave me some	21	several D&D contractors, Environmental Management
22	pause. So I hope you can appreciate that.	22	contractors in Oak Ridge, so each one of those contracts
23	And what I'm concerned about is the concept of	23	is a slightly different type of contract, so there's
24	timing. When it comes to nuclear safety, I think it	24	different timelines for that.
25	means not only access, but timely access. And if we get	25	But at this point in time, we've asked all our
	34		36
1	caught up into a lot of bureaucratic debate on whether	1	contractors, through the contract process, to evaluate
2	or not we need to see the information to then do the	2	impacts to implement the Order and then, of course,
3	assessment, there safety could be impacted. Things can	3	depending on that, we would either negotiate a contract
4	be overcome by events. So the value of the Board on	4	change if there is if they came back and said it's
5	oversight can be diminished.	5	going to cost this much more money, we have to negotiate
6	So while we're trying to debate whether we have	6	that in contract space. At this point they have come
7	access or not, events might be happening or things might	7	back and said no impact, so we will move down the road
8	not be controlled. So those are two points I want to	8	to implement that.
9	make.	9	There's kind of a quarterly update typically to
10	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: And I think just to be sure,	10	the standards that are in our contracts, and it would
11	Mr. Santos, there's no question in there. You're just	11	just go into that normal update. Of course, if there's
12	making an observation.	12	a if it did have impacts, that would be different, we
13	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: No, I'm just making an	13	would have to go through a negotiation process. So
14	observation.	14	that's kind of the timeline for that.
15	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you. Okay, so no	15	So I would expect that within the next six
16	response required.	16	months, it will be in all our contractors' contracts.

- 17 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: So the question to Ms. White, can you describe the EM implementation 18 19 strategy for the order? I mean, in terms of timing, 20 training, your expectations of the implementation? 21 ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So as I understand
- 22 it, training sessions were conducted by my staff to the
- 23 field. That really highlighted the fact that this order
- 24 clarifies roles and responsibilities, it applies to the
- 25 Department and our contractors, and it is not intended

9 (Pages 33 to 36)

BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: So if we could include

ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Absolutely. We will

that for all EM sites, including Oak Ridge, ma'am.

BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you.

You talked about training, Mr. Mullis. Can you

MR. MULLIS: Sure. Training was done by VTC and

describe the training and how you participated yourself.

What is your perspective on the training?

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get that data to you.

11/28/2018

1 call-in for each one of the sites. And there is a set 1 So my perspective was, after sitting through the 2 order, and 1 think there were like a frequently asked 1 training, that it was simply a matter of trying to 4 questions kind of thing as well. And so there was a 1 the other DOE orders and manuals operated at this time, 5 discussion by VTC led by headquarters. 6 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you. 7 maybe AU, Mr. Moury's shop, and that's the one I think I 7 CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Santos. 8 participated in. There was a subsequent one that EM had 8 Ms. Connery? 9 as well that all the stift ariting at fail participated in. So all the 9 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: So you can give me some of 11 side for the Defense Board participated in 10 can give me some of 11 14 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: So you can give me some of 14 Nuclear Security Administration, the semi-autonomous National 14 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Okay. 16 stewith the presence of both NNSA and EM. Because 15 stacholders. 17 So, Ms. White, at several of your field 10 12 the explanet sum or nunoutside stifs a 25 26 <th></th> <th>37</th> <th></th> <th>39</th>		37		39
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5 we've got a new order that we're putting in that 5 sites where, as you say, there's both EM facilities and				
				sites where, as you say, there's both EM facilities and
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Public Hearing

- 7 oh, this is going to cause us not to do this or to do
- 8 that. So --
- 9 BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: The part that intrigues me 10 is, I understand all of you saying there's no change, 11 but a literal read of the order clearly shows change, 12 and I'm just trying to understand how you all reconcile 13 that. Was that emphasized as part of the training? 14 MR. MULLIS: It was. It was. And it was in the 15 slides -- my recollection is, at least for the part I 16 sat in, it was in the slide deck and in the set of 17 questions, as to what these things really meant. And 18 what we got out of it was, no big change. And the fact 19 that the reason we were updating the order had been over 20 a decade since the manual had been issued. And, of 21 course, over time, we've tried to become more 22 disciplined in our command media and, you know, we used 23 to operate under the old four-digit orders, and over 24 time that has changed as we migrated to a three-digit 25 order.

has been any challenges that you've seen in that area? ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: We have a number o sites where, as you say, there's both EM facilities and NNSA facilities. We enjoy a cooperative relationship with our semi-autonomous sister organization, and we're always actually working to improve those communications. We just started a project recently not related to the Defense Board that's around that very topic. So, and certainly if you become aware of any rubs regarding that, please let us know and we'll address it. BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you.

Mr. Mullis, how do you anticipate working with NNSA relative to the Board interface during your upcoming environmental management work at the Y-12 site, speaking specifically to the decommissioning work at Alpha 5? MR. MULLIS: Well, I don't see that changing

dramatically, as it has over the last several years. I mean, we've always had facilities and work going on out there, and at one point in time, Y-12 was part of Oak Ridge and, of course, Oak Ridge broke apart into separate entities. When I was the Defense Board liaison

10 (Pages 37 to 40)

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	and part of the Nuclear Safety Program, I certainly	1	Nuclear Facilities and Sites. Capturing and correcting
2	contacted and stayed in touch with my counterparts over	2	failures at the lowest levels can predict and prevent
3	there and vice versa over the different recommendations	3	larger scale problems at these off-site releases to the
4	and things that were occurring. While we share	4	public. So this is a conversation that we started
5	information and we will do our best to coordinate, we	5	earlier with regards to Category 3 facilities and
6	don't speak for them, they don't speak for us.	6	facilities without Safety-Class Controls.
7	And so at times there has been a different	7	So, Mr. Mullis, as a long-time safety
8	approach, site dispersion analysis, things like that,	8	professional, can you discuss the relationship between
9	out of the two organizations. And so to the extent we	9	deficiencies identified at facilities without
10	can cooperate and the extent we can give a unified	10	Safety-Class Controls, and the potential implications
11	approach, we will, but given that EM work is different	11	for higher hazard facilities? For example, if you find
12	than the work they do, I think you'll there is going	12	issues associated with future decommissioning work at
13	to be times as well when we things may be a little	13	Alpha 5, a lower hazard facility at Y-12, how would you
14	bit misaligned, quite frankly.	14	apply those lessons learned to more hazardous
15	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So the point I'm trying	15	decommissioning activities?
16	to get at is with the implementation of the interface	16	MR. MULLIS: So we're all the time trying to
17	document, 140, the order, we do enjoy a close working	17	apply lessons learned. For instance, we had a lot of
18	relationship with EM at the Resident Inspector level, as	18	lessons learned at ETTP on how to deactivate a D&D
19	well as with NNSA, but what we've noticed is that there	19	gaseous fusion plant. We recognized that those weren't
20	are different approaches as to, say, who has the	20	necessarily completely applicable to the new work we
21	authority to decide that something is predecisional?	21	would be getting into at Y-12, and so there's lessons
22	Who gives the authority to release the document? And	22	learned that we could apply, we have, and we've gone in
23	sometimes, say on the NNSA side, it may go up to	23	and tried to do some approaches to work to figure out
24	field-level NNSA person, and on the EM side it might be	24	what it's like to work with mercury and we're having
25	somebody at a different level.	25	some hard lessons learned on that.
	42		44
1	We're just wondering whether or not that will be	1	With respect to things we might learn in a less
2	calibrated, it doesn't necessarily have to be, but will	2	hazardous facility, we certainly would apply those to a
3	that have impact on how we interact with you or whether	3	more hazardous facility. I guess I don't I don't see
4	or not we will be able to get the timely information we	4	the distinction that I think folks are trying to make
5	need? And I'll direct that at Ms. White.	5	between a Haz Cat 2 facility with Safety-Class Controls
6	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So as Jay mentioned,	6	and a Haz Cat 2 facility without Safety-Class Controls
7	they're independent organizations. Speaking for EM, if	7	and a Haz Cat 3 facility. If they all have the same
8	there's issues or problems, we want to hear about it.	8	hazard, they all have the same hazard and we would
9	And I hope that that if things come up, there will be	9	approach that hazard appropriately. Okay?
10	a dialogue.	10	Now, off-site consequences may drive control
11	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Me again. Sorry. So	11	selection, so it might differ between how close to the

12 we're going to geek out a little bit on the nuclear 13 safety side of the house, and one of the lines of 14 inquiry during our previous public hearing regarded the 15 integrated nature of safety. In an Integrated Safety 16 Management System, the erosion in the capabilities of 17 facilities without Safety-Class Controls or facilities 18 with low or facilities with low end-life consequences to 19 off-site individuals could be lead indicators of the 20 extent of conditions with implications at facilities 21 with significant analyzed consequences to off-site 22 individuals. 23 This concept is explained in great detail in the 24 Board's Technical Report 20, Protection of the

25 Collocated Worker at the Department of Energy Defense

ls site boundary you are versus how far away from the site boundary to direct what might get Haz Cat 2 Safety-Class Controls and more likely to have Safety-Significant Controls, but as far as the hazards, we will address hazards as we find them. And we have lessons learned, one of the Board

17 18 members mentioned Idaho, it might have been you, but as 19 soon as we heard about that, we started developing 20 lessons learned and trying to look and see if we had 21 similar moratoriums within our population at TWPC, 22 Transuranic Waste Processing Center. 23

BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So I think you made my point, which is that these categorizations are somewhat artificial in terms of how we see our oversight. We see

11 (Pages 41 to 44)

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Public Hearing

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1	our oversight as being equal in all categories, because	1	we're concerned about access to all of the facilities
2	there is no difference in how you approach those safety	2	and having our Board be able to conduct reviews, our
3	issues, and they're integrated. So I appreciate that.	3	Board staff be able to conduct reviews regardless of
4	MR. MULLIS: Well, if I might elaborate, I would	4	Hazard Category facilities and regardless of
5	say the only thing this would be worth is the	5	Safety-Class Controls. Thank you.
6	controlling the control selection, right?	6	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Board Member Roberson?
7	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Right.	7	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8	MR. MULLIS: But again, that's our internal	8	I want to explore a topic, the topic of workers as an
9	documents that are appropriate for the DOE. I don't	9	essential part of public health and safety, that I worry
10	know that they would apply to you at all.	10	that either we and the Department are talking past each
11	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Right. And your control	11	other, or I don't know what's happening, but the Board
12	selection is obviously the choice of the Department.	12	has provided recommendations and other formal advice to
12	MR. MULLIS: Correct.	13	the Department in areas that include a focus on safety
13	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: We just analyze it for	14	of the workers at Defense Nuclear Facilities, and can we
15	our purposes to see if it is appropriate for the	15	put Exhibit 4 up.
16	situation at hand.	16	
10		17	So this is a list of some examples, it's by far not exhaustive. One example I want to focus on as it
	MR. MULLIS: Correct.		•
18	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So you gave me a great	18	relates to the Environmental Management Program is Board
19	lead-in. As we discussed earlier, Ms. White, at	19	Recommendation 2012-1, the Savannah River site, Building
20	transuranic waste facilities, notably at WIPP, and most	20	235-F. In this recommendation, the Board identified
21	recently at Idaho, those are examples where the DOE and	21	inadequate controls for fire scenarios with an
22	the Board evaluate the extent of conditions and	22	unmitigated dose consequence of multiple thousands of
23	determine valuable lessons that can be applied across	23	rem to more than a thousand collocated workers who were
24	the complex. So you are doing that and we are doing	24	routinely near Building 235-F.
25	that as well.	25	The Secretary accepted the Board's
	46		48
1	These facilities also don't have Safety-Class	1	recommendation and stated in the Department's
2	Controls, and could be excluded from the Board's	2	implementation plan, and I'll try to quote this, "This
3	oversight by the Order. So can you discuss DOE's	3	IP focuses on addressing the corrective actions
4	approach in reviewing safety information at all your	4	necessary to confirm assurance of adequate collocated
5	facilities to identify the extent of condition issues	5	worker protection."
6	and lessons learned that could be applied across the DOE	6	The recommendation is still open today, and we
7	complex?	7	see progress, we're very supportive of that. It's open
8	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: Yes. So as Jay	8	with ongoing actions by DOE and the contractor to
9	mentioned, we're always looking at lessons learned	9	address the issues identified in the Board's
10	across the complex. We've got a very robust oversight	10	recommendation.
11	system within EM itself, as well as other areas of the	11	I guess if we were to issue this recommendation
12	Department. So we enjoy that relationship and that	12	today, as we read DOE Order 140.1, as it certainly
13	input, and also from the Board.	13	includes focus on some worker safety issues, would the
14	So the lessons learned component is very	14	Department reject that recommendation?
15	important, and, you know, we learned a lot of lessons	15	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: We would certainly
16	with WIPP, for example. So we're constantly striving to	16	look at the input and evaluate it. In the 235-F
17	do better and learn more throughout our mission.	17	situation, there were many reasons to try and reduce the
18	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you. I'm a big fan	18	combustible load. You don't want to fire at any nuclear
19	of your operational experience, formalization of those	19	facility of any variety. So that was a very welcomed
20	lessons learned and we encourage that at all points	20	recommendation As you said we've been working on it

lessons learned, and we encourage that at all points, 20

- 21 but I just want to, in closing, on this topic, state
- 22 that this confirms my belief that safety oversight
- 23 information gathered at all Defense Nuclear Facilities
- 24 are needed to help address the most challenging nuclear
- 25 safety issues facing the DOE complex, and that's why

12 (Pages 45 to 48)

recommendation. As you said, we've been working on it.

BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: So, I just want to

So certainly we take input from anyone on improved

explore for a minute. I appreciate that. I guess what

we struggle with when we look at some of the proposals,

worker health and safety.

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Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	advice, recommendations to the Department, and we look	1	we rely on worker action, absolutely. I mean, in TSRs,
2	at the order, we're trying to understand where the	2	you have required staffing requirements, things like
3	Department sees the line. And so that's just a good	3	that. You have SACs as well. So yes. The short answer
4	example. There were certainly a variety of issues	4	to it is yes. We look at collocated workers, facility
5	raised, but there were specific issues raised as it	5	workers and public health safety.
6	related to protection of collocated workers, or even	6	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: And we know that and you
7	facility workers. And I'm just trying to target in,	7	all know this, too, and we expect that you will continue
8	would that be across the line.	8	to expand that reliance as facilities age or you
9	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So this is, as you	9	approach work in access facilities where systems may not
10	well know, probably a long-standing jurisdictional	10	have been maintained to today's standards. So we see
11	question that has been a matter of discussion for years.	11	that as something that's standard. The Board recognizes
12	And probably general counsel might be the best sort of	12	it when it issues a recommendations on admin controls,
13	resource, ours and yours, on this particular topic,	13	and it worked with the Department on that. And so we
14	because as I say, it's been a long-standing discussion.	14	know that's true across the complex. So thank you.
15	For me, anyway, worker health and safety is	15	The last question I have on workers is I
16 17	extremely important. I worked in the field in my career	16	personally, and I raised this in the last hearing, too,
17	and I benefited from the nuclear safety culture, and I	17 18	I'm concerned that the language in the order that exempts Board oversight of worker safety could be
18 19	understand it's extremely important. So we're always going to ensure that our workers are safe and protected	10	interpreted by personnel at Defense Nuclear Facilities
20	through multiple programs, including 835.	20	to direct them that they are not to communicate worker
20	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Thank you, Assistant	21	safety issues to the Board.
22	Secretary.	22	Now, and I'll say this is not just workers in an
23	So we did ask this in the last hearing, and	23	operation, it could be Federal workers. No oversight
24	we've asked it outside of the hearings, and one of the	24	function, including your own, can be successful if the
25	things we've been told is the Atomic Energy Act does not	25	people inside do not feel free to raise safety issues,
	50		52
1	say that the Board provides oversight of workers, only	1	they do not believe have been properly understood or
2	the public. And it's true, Atomic Energy Act does not	2	appropriately addressed, and we are no different than
3	specify the workers, but it doesn't specify any safety	3	that.
4	system or protective measures to be utilized to ensure	4	I guess what I'm asking, and I'm directing this
5	the adequate protection of public health and safety. For instance, the Act does not list confinement	5	to you, Mr. Mullis, but Ms. White, you are welcome to
6 7	ventilation systems or fire suppression systems as	6 7	address it. How will you ensure this is not the overtly
8	essential, although the Board has proposed, and the DOE	8	spoken or silently whispered message received by the workers at your facilities?
9	has agreed by its own actions, to the significant role	9	MR. MULLIS: So we always strive to have a good,
10	that these systems have in ensuring adequate protection.	10	open safety culture. All our contractors do safety
11	From our perspective, the Department continues	11	culture surveys. We grade them as best we can on their
12	to expand its reliance on administrative controls	12	safety culture performance. We have the same thing. We
13	implemented by workers versus passive engineered	13	just completed our safety culture survey as well. And
14	features. Do your nuclear operations execute actions as	14	so we have a number of different systems.
15	a part of your safety construction for ensuring	15	If you can't get resolution via the normal chain
16	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on	16	of command, you have DPO process, you can call the IG
17	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker	17	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all
17 18	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to	17 18	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both
17 18 19	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to ensure adequate protection at your facilities?	17 18 19	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both contractor workers and DOE workers through various and
17 18 19 20	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to ensure adequate protection at your facilities? ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I would say that we	17 18 19 20	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both contractor workers and DOE workers through various and sundry means. Whether that's in staff meetings or
17 18 19 20 21	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to ensure adequate protection at your facilities? ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I would say that we are always compliant with the law, and again, we take	17 18 19 20 21	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both contractor workers and DOE workers through various and sundry means. Whether that's in staff meetings or whether that's through the DPO process, or whether
17 18 19 20 21 22	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to ensure adequate protection at your facilities? ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I would say that we are always compliant with the law, and again, we take input on all issues related to worker safety from all	17 18 19 20 21 22	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both contractor workers and DOE workers through various and sundry means. Whether that's in staff meetings or whether that's through the DPO process, or whether that's through calling the IG about safety concerns they
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	protection of public health and safety? Do you rely on worker training, worker qualifications and worker availability to execute actions that are necessary to ensure adequate protection at your facilities? ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I would say that we are always compliant with the law, and again, we take input on all issues related to worker safety from all parties.	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	and be anonymous. And so those things are occurring all the time where we're getting concerns from both contractor workers and DOE workers through various and sundry means. Whether that's in staff meetings or whether that's through the DPO process, or whether that's through calling the IG about safety concerns they might have anonymously.
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Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	past couple of years, all those systems are being used	1	communication.
2	robustly.	2	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: So a contractor may
3	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: And let me say, all	3	literally read no access, but then when he approaches
4	those systems are in place and they are widespread	4	the Department officials, then the Department officials
5	within the agency, but I'm specifically focused on	5	will say, no, no, no, no change, they do get access. Is
6	technical issues as it relates to safety controls and	6	that a way to read this?
7	ensuring adequate protection. We certainly, and as I'm	7	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I can't so I
8	sure you do, hear from workers across the complex, and	8	can't imagine a situation in which if the resident
9	what we're concerned about is a message that says, the	9	inspectors, or anyone from the Board wanted access to a
10	Board has no role as it relates to the workers at our	10	Hazard Category 3 facility, that we would deny it. So
11	facility could certainly translate into a message we	11	that's what I can say.
12	think is the wrong message.	12	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Okay. And to
13	MR. MULLIS: I don't see that message being out	13	Mr. Roscetti, do you have any evidence or anything from
14	there. When I get something back from the contractor	14	our resident inspectors where the new order has resulted
15	saying we see no impact for implementing this order, to	15	in some challenges to have ready access?
16	me that tells me there's not going to be some overt	16	MR. ROSCETTI: No, sir, I don't have any
17	hidden message that's being provided to the worker at	17	examples regarding our resident inspectors having issues
18	the workplace to not talk to the Board staff.	18	with access at EM facilities.
19	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: We should just all be	19	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Okay. What about other
20	diligent. And I appreciate that.	20	elements? Other programs?
21	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Ms. Roberson.	21	MR. ROSCETTI: I think at the last public
22	Board Member Santos?	22	hearing on August 28th, 2018, we described some issues
23	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: I would like to follow up	23	regarding access to information in general, but not
24 25	on that, because I see components of safety's adherence	24	necessarily specific to the resident inspectors.
25	to a standard set of requirements, and for that you have	25	MR. SANTOS: And that includes both with the DOE
	54		56
1	a robust infrastructure. So help me understand a little	1	Federal employees and the contractors?
2	bit. Because the phrase that we keep hearing today, and	2	MR. ROSCETTI: The way that the Board staff
3	actually one that I accept, and I want to believe it, is	3	interacts with the Department regarding access to
4	the "no change. The order results in no change." But	4	information, we have Federal liaisons that we work
5	as you know, you're going to have some of this order	5	through for information, so they're the final deciders
6	being implemented in the contracts. And I want to	6	as to whether we get the information we request. And
7	understand whether "no impact" equals "no change,"	7	when we make the request, we follow the site procedures.
8	because contractors typically follow the letter of the	8	In the instance of the resident inspectors, and for
9	requirements.	9	headquarters staff, we fill out a form, there's a formal
10	So if they apply a strict implementation and	10	request made, and again, the Federal liaisons are the
11	reading of the requirements that are in their contracts,	11	ones that ensure that the contractors provide that
12 13	I'm trying to understand how that's not going to result in how that's going to result in no change. So I'm	12	information we request.
13	trying to understand the difference between no impact,	13 14	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Santos.
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16			•
	which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way	15	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on
	which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way things are faced with the order given that language.	15 16	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on this line of inquiry. Does the Atomic Energy Act as
17	which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way things are faced with the order given that language. Could you expand on that?	15 16 17	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on this line of inquiry. Does the Atomic Energy Act as amended refer to hazard categories?
17 18	which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way things are faced with the order given that language. Could you expand on that? MR. MULLIS: I assume that's directed at me.	15 16 17 18	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on this line of inquiry. Does the Atomic Energy Act as amended refer to hazard categories? MR. ROSCETTI: No, sir. The Atomic Energy Act
17 18 19	which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way things are faced with the order given that language.Could you expand on that?MR. MULLIS: I assume that's directed at me.BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Yes. And Ms. White, too.	15 16 17 18 19	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on this line of inquiry. Does the Atomic Energy Act as amended refer to hazard categories? MR. ROSCETTI: No, sir. The Atomic Energy Act as amended does not refer to hazard categories.
17 18 19 20	 which tends to be cost, versus no change in the way things are faced with the order given that language. Could you expand on that? MR. MULLIS: I assume that's directed at me. BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Yes. And Ms. White, too. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So, again, the order 	15 16 17 18 19 20	I have a short follow-on for Mr. Roscetti on this line of inquiry. Does the Atomic Energy Act as amended refer to hazard categories? MR. ROSCETTI: No, sir. The Atomic Energy Act as amended does not refer to hazard categories. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Where are they defined, and
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11/28/2018

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Public Hearing Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	to Ms. White, given the feedback and some of the	1	who may be more active in responding to some of these.
2	comments that you heard, will you and the Department	2	We're assuming that we can rely on those arrangements
3	consider incorporating some of the formal feedback the	3	that were laid out in the previous manual, even though
4	Board is providing to revise the current order?	4	they're not incorporated into the order. I don't know.
5	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I can't speak for	5	Is that a fair assumption for us to make?
6	the entire Department, but certainly I've listened to	6	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I think it is. I
7	your input and understand some of your concerns, and we	7	know the form that was referenced here has been in use
8	really need to just get back with you on that.	8	for years, and it continues to be in use. So I think
9	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Okay, I'm sorry? The last	9	where systems aren't broken, then we're not going to fix
10	part?	10	them.
11	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: We need to get back	11	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: I agree with that.
12	with you on that.	12	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Ms. Roberson.
13	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Oh, I look forward to it.	13	Board Member Connery for the last question this
14	Thank you. Good.	14	morning.
15	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Santos.	15	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So the last line of
16	The last line of inquiry for this morning goes	16	questioning is along the lines of my opening, and it's a
17	to Ms. Connery.	17	bit broader. I mean, we're here because, you know, we
18	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: I think Ms. Roberson has	18	find that the order is contradictory to our statute, but
19	it.	19	at the base of it, it's about safety, and that's what
20	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: I'm sorry, did you have a	20	we're interested in, that's what the Department is
21	question, Ms. Roberson?	21	interested in, and I believe that's where our common
22	BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: I did have a quick	22	ground lay.
23	followup if I could, to Mr. Santos' question. We talked	23	So the topic that I want to talk about is about
24	about the Request for Information. Maybe there are	24	the Department's view and changes it's making to its
25	others that were encompassed in the previous manual.	25	approach to ensuring adequate protection, both with
	62		64
1		1	
1 2	Are those encompassed in the new order?	1 2	respect to the new interface order and changes that
		2	
2	Are those encompassed in the new order? MR. ROSCETTI: You're asking me? BOARD MEMBER ROBERSON: Yes, sir.	2 3	respect to the new interface order and changes that we've seen in 10 C.F.R. 830 and its associated
2 3	Are those encompassed in the new order? MR. ROSCETTI: You're asking me?	2	respect to the new interface order and changes that we've seen in 10 C.F.R. 830 and its associated documents. This seems to be a moment in time where DOE is
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Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: I wouldn't	1	contribution. I'm sure the other Board members, like
2	characterize it as a change in philosophy. For me,	2	myself, will take your input as a part of the total
3	anyway, and for the leadership as well. I frequently	3	package. We're trying to determine what the Order means
4	say, don't even make me say, "and safely," because it's	4	to the Board and the Department's going forward
5	a baseline assumption in the work we do. And as I	5	relationship. So thank you.
6	mentioned, I benefited from the safety culture as	6	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Santos asked for a
7	somebody who has been in the field doing the work, and	7	second.
8	it's extremely important.	8	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: I want a second because in
9	So I would not say that the Department is	9	case you decide you need to leave, I can thank you and I
10	changing their philosophy on safety. The only way to do	10	really openly look forward to continued strong
11	work is safely.	11	collaboration, continue the dialogue, because at the end
12	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: I appreciate that. I	12	of the day, you're absolutely right, we're both caring
12	think that my last I won't ask a question, because I	13	about the same thing, which is the American public
14	understand where you stand on that. I think our concern	14	health and safety. So, I'm here. Thank you.
15	is that Congress was clear when it created the Board	15	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you very much.
16	that they were concerned about DOE's expert-based	16	Hearing no other questions or comments from the Board, I
17	safety, as well as becoming complacent in its approach	17	want to thank you, Ms. White, and Mr. Mullis, for your
18	to nuclear safety. And I worry that trend lines tend to	18	participation this morning. We will take a 10-minute
19	go up and down with regard to that.	19	recess, at which time we will reconvene for the public
20	And at this point in time, the Board has its own	20	comment period. We are in recess. Thank you.
21	struggles, as, you know, is evidenced in the press, and	21	(Whereupon, there was a recess in the
22	the Department has been having its struggles with safety	22	proceedings.)
23	culture, you've got turnover in workforce, and again,	23	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you. At this time, I
24	complex, difficult tasks ahead of you. So I just don't	24	would like to reconvene our hearing for Session 2, the
25	know that now is the time to make broad changes that	25	public comment period. I will turn the proceedings over
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	66		68
1		1	
1	could have impacts to safety going forward.	1	to our acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph Gilman.
2	could have impacts to safety going forward. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So I hear your	2	to our acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph Gilman. Mr. Gilman?
2 3	could have impacts to safety going forward. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So I hear your concern, and again, I just, I really want to emphasize	2 3	to our acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph Gilman. Mr. Gilman? MR. GILMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hamilton.
2 3 4	could have impacts to safety going forward. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So I hear your concern, and again, I just, I really want to emphasize this point, that we really cannot have successful	2 3 4	to our acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph Gilman. Mr. Gilman? MR. GILMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hamilton. At this time, the Board would like to provide an
2 3 4 5	could have impacts to safety going forward. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WHITE: So I hear your concern, and again, I just, I really want to emphasize this point, that we really cannot have successful projects without safe projects. It just can't happen.	2 3 4 5	to our acting general counsel, Mr. Joseph Gilman. Mr. Gilman? MR. GILMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hamilton. At this time, the Board would like to provide an opportunity for comments from interested members of the
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17 (Pages 65 to 68)

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Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	The Chairman would like to introduce our first	1	responsibility
2	speaker, so I will turn it back over to you,	2	those responsi
3	Mr. Chairman.	3	may help, but
4	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I am	4	line managem
5	going to take Chairman's prerogative to introduce our	5	DOE or stat
6	first speaker, Captain Jack Crawford. Mr. Crawford	6	emphasize line
7	served as a member of our Board from its inception in	7	Finally, c
8	1989 until 1996. He served with distinction with the	8	enabling legis
9	Atomic Energy Commission as Principal Deputy Assistant	9	technical expe
10	Secretary for Nuclear Energy. He was Deputy Manager for	10	Board issued
11	Naval Reactors under Admiral Rickover, and most notably,	11	done? And if
12	he is a survivor of the sinking of the aircraft carrier	12	Thank yo
13	USS Yorktown during the second world war. That trumps	13	to ask question
14	everything else in the bio, as far as I'm concerned.	14	CHAIRM
15	Captain Crawford, when you made your remarks	15	would offer th
16	during the can you hear me, sir?	16	those in the re
17	CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.	17	CAPTAI
18	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: When you made your remarks	18	Board have ar
19	during our August hearing, you gave us some written	19	a few extra co
20	remarks and written questions, which we included in the	20	CHAIRM
21	record to be asked to the Department of Energy. We have	21	CAPTAI
22	woven most of those questions into our lines of inquiry	22	writes me and
23	today. So I want to thank you for your submission, and	23	copy of these
24	I want to assure you that your experience, wisdom and	24	CHAIRM
25	insight continue to be highly valued. So thank you,	25	continued serv

y for safety can only -- only be met by sible for doing the work involved. Others t this does not lessen the responsibility of nent for safety. Moreover, the purpose of ated purpose of DOE Order 0140.1 is to ne management and responsibility. question number three: The Board's slation requires it to "raise the level of pertise in DOE substantially." Has the formal recommendations to DOE that this be f they have, what have been the results? you, sir, for allowing me this opportunity ons. MAN HAMILTON: And, Mr. Crawford, if you those comments on paper, we will include ecord. IN CRAWFORD: You and every member of the in envelope with these questions, and I have opies that I will hand out. MAN HAMILTON: Well, thank you, sir. IN CRAWFORD: And moreover, anyone who d gives me their name, I will mail them a e questions, okay? MAN HAMILTON: Thank you, sir, for your rvice to the public.

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1	Mr. Crawford. Please, you have the floor. I am going
2	to give you 10 minutes.
2	

CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: Okay. I have three 3 4 questions. The first is a statement, the Board's letter 5 of September 17, 2018 states that the Board's primary 6 concerns are in disclosure. They are in four categories 7 as follows: Exemptions, public health and safety, 8 determinations of access, and deliberative information. 9 All appear to be capable of being resolved so as to be 10 consistent with the Board's enabling legislation. Is it not, however, important that the Board 11 12 appears not to consider -- does not consider lack of 13 technical expertise within DOE a matter of primary 14 importance? I say "appears" because it may be that you 15 do, but it is not evident in the correspondence. 16 Second question: The agenda for Session 1 has as a goal, gather information on DNFSB interface and 17 18 access to information, facilities and personnel managed 19 by the Department of Energy Office of Environmental 20 Management. Now, does this mean that the latter, namely 21 the Office of Environmental Management, has line 22 management responsibilities for efforts of the DOE line 23 in building, operating and maintaining Defense Nuclear 24 Facilities? Because if it does, this violates a 25 fundamental principle of safety; namely, that

CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: Thank you for this
opportunity, Mr. Chairman.
CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: I will turn the proceedings
back over to our acting general counsel, Mr. Gilman.
MR. GILMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hamilton. I will
confirm that I received his written comments.
So the next and thank you again for your
statement, sir.
The next speaker is Ms. Kathy Crandall-Robinson
of Tri-Valley CAREs and the Alliance for Nuclear
Accountability.
MS. CRANDALL-ROBINSON: Thank you very much for
the opportunity to participate in this hearing and to
provide comments today. My name is Kathy
Crandall-Robinson, and I am speaking for the Alliance
for Nuclear Accountability and Tri-Valley Communities
Against a Radioactive Environment. ANA is a network of
more than 30 organizations located near DOE and NNSA
Defense Nuclear Facilities, including Tri-Valley CAREs,
which is near Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, and for

- 21 over 30 years, ANA leaders have addressed nuclear 22 weapons production and waste cleanup issues across the 23 weapons complex and have developed really extensive
- 24 experience working with DOE, NNSA and the Safety Board.
 - We are deeply concerned that Order 140.1

11/28/2018

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1	constrains crucial oversight activities of the DNFSB and	1
2	thereby endangers public and worker health and safety.	2
3	Since its establishment, the Safety Board has played a	3
4	vital role in protecting public health and safety. It	4
5	has identified numerous hazards, like buildup of	5
6	explosive and flammable glasses at Hanford waste tanks,	6
7	fire hazards at WIPP, seismic dangers at Los Alamos,	7
8	bulging and disabled waste storage from Oak Ridge, and	8
9	many more.	9
10	Advice from the Safety Board has led to changes	10
11	in safety design for facilities and corrective actions,	11
12	and safety culture improvements at sites across the	12
13	complex. Stakeholders and community leaders have very	13
14	high praise for the information that they learn about	14
15	the sites from regular site reports provided by the	15
16	DNFSB.	16
17	A particularly egregious problem that we find	17
18	with Order 140.1 is that it redefines and limits the	18
19	role of DNFSB in protecting worker safety and health.	19
20	This is an area where the Safety Board has played a	20
21	crucial role, and of particular illustrative story about	21
22	this was in a recent Santa Fe, New Mexico story entitled	22
23	Exposed: The Life and Death of Chad Walde. This news	23
24	article details Mr. Walde's journey working in high	24
25	radiation areas at Los Alamos National Labs from fall of	25

25 radiation areas at Los Alamos National Labs from fall of

1999 to fall of 2014, and cites DNFSB reports as 1 2 evidence of exposures.

3 Walde received high doses, with scrubdown on 4 more than one occasion, and was told to stay home at 5 various periods of time. In 2014, he was diagnosed with stage 4 glioblastoma, a rare brain cancer. When he 6 applied for medical care and compensation, the exposure 7 8 records were gone, but notably, the DNFSB reports 9 remained. Unfortunately, in early 2017, Mr. Walde died 10 at the age of 44. We do recall also that in the decades before 11 12 DNFSB existed, major accidents, spills and releases were 13 considered routine and justified in the service of a 14 mentality of production first and safety second, at 15 best. And I'll note, because Rocky Flats was mentioned, in the days before DNFSB, Rocky Flats was once a scary 16 place. I know because I grew up in Boulder. 17 18 Order 140.1, with its degradation of DNFSB's 19 role and authority, threatens to send us on a path back 20 to a careless era as if this were a time when safety 21 concerns and dangers at the nuclear weapons facilities 22 are shrinking. They are not. Instead, there are aging 23 facilities, facilities operating with serious safety 24 concerns have been raised, and some facilities where

increased production plans could lead to novel dangers.

25

For example, the plans with plutonium pit production that call for 80 pits per year by 2030, expansion at Los Alamos, and also a new facility at the Savannah River site. We heartily agree with the Board's communication to Congress that the Secretary's order wrongly attempts to diminish the authority granted by Congress for the Board. We share the major concerns the Safety Board has very carefully explained, and I wanted to highlight three specific problem areas. The first is this notion of DNFSB's role of protecting public health applying only outside of the site boundaries. And related to this really is the exemption of Hazard Category 3 and facilities below this hazard level, as well as the sort of dismissal of the DNFSB role in worker health and safety. Many of the risky facilities now under DNFSB's purview, which we've discussed today, fall into this Hazard Category 3 or below. These facilities can and do change hazard classification. DOE claimed in a PowerPoint presentation rolling out the implementation of this order that by definition, Hazard Category 3 nuclear facilities have the potential for only significant localized risks, as opposed to risks to the

public, and are therefore exempted by the order.

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1	At Livermore Labs, in particular, this is a flat
2	argument. The public is so closely located to many of
3	the facilities that they're closer than so-called
4	collocated workers on the site, even though they're
5	outside of the boundaries. Even at other sites where
6	there is more physical separation, significant localized
7	risks should definitely be overseen by the Safety Board.
8	Negligence with dangerous materials results in releases
9	in the air and water that travels beyond boundaries.
10	Contamination can be carried home by workers who live in
11	our communities.
12	Curtailing DNFSB oversight of worker health and
13	safety is dangerous and a tragic mistake. Worker safety
14	is what assures public safety. They cannot be delinked.
15	We're concerned, also, about the access to
16	contractors and site workers. The constraints set forth
17	in the order seem to set up some new procedures that
18	could be cumbersome, counterproductive, confusing,
19	timeliness issues, as Mr. Santos brought up, and we
20	believe that this is at odds with the enabling
21	legislation that actually directs that each contractor
22	should fully cooperate with the Board.
23	Lastly, the ability to deny access to
24	predecisional documents and deliberative meetings is
25	concerning. In general, the DNFSB's expertise and

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1	safety perspective will be most helpful in developing	1	Our members, including site workers, and our
2	orders, procedures and requirements that help to address	2	communities, depend every day on DNFSB diligence. Thank
3	safety concerns at the earliest stage. The Board does	3	you.
4	not have the regulatory authority to sanction or stop a	4	MR. GILMAN: Thank you.
5	decision; instead, its value really is in providing	5	Ms. Connery has a question.
6	sound information and advice. That advice is most	6	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So I just want to thank
7	useful at the deliberative and predecisional phase.	7	you, Ms. Crandall-Robinson, for your cogent and
8	This is especially true with access to early	8	thoughtful remarks, and it's good to know that you have
9	construction design. It is less helpful and more	9	contacted both DOE and the Hill about the concerns of
10	expensive for safety design flaws to be discovered at	10	your organizations, and I guess I just have a quick
11	later stages. We always recall that UPF design fit	11	question. I often interact with the Tri-Valley CAREs
12	fiasco.	12	and the Hanford the HAB, the Hanford Advisory Board,
13	Taken together, the order constrains the flow	13	when I go out to the site. I'm just wondering, can you
14	and access to information. These constraints will	14	describe a little bit about the interactions you have on
15	likely have a chilling effect over time on DNFSB site	15	site with the Department of Energy and the contractors
16	representatives and inspectors, and the information they	16	to get some of your concerns across? I mean, other than
17	seek, as well as the workers and contractors and the	17	writing a letter, do you guys have any mechanisms for
18	information they willingly provide. Information flowing	18	having interaction?
19	to the public and stakeholders at the sites were also	19	MS. CRANDALL-ROBINSON: Well, there is a lot of
20	concerned.	20	interaction at the individual sites. I know we have
21	MR. GILMAN: Ninety seconds.	21	really good relationships with we don't have there
22	MS. CRANDALL-ROBINSON: The goal of preventing	22	is not a representative at Livermore, but there is a
23	safety incidents at the earliest stages is thwarted by	23	very fine cognizant engineer, good relationships there.
24	what really seemed to be adversarial bureaucratic	24	And, you know, I think also good relationships with the
25	hurdles. We are especially worried that there were so	25	site-specific advisory boards at each of the sites.
	78		80
1	little iterative and collaborative discussion in	1	And the reason that the Alliance for Nuclear
2	developing this order with the Safety Board, with	2	Accountability was formed right around the same time as
3	stakeholders, workers and contractors on the sites, and	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	DNFSB is that we were seeing many similar issues come up
4	apparently very little discussion with Congress.	4	at each of the sites, and so formed this network to work
5	On August 27th, ANA sent a letter calling on DOE	5	together. And as that has happened, over the years, we
6	to rescind the order, or at least hold it in abeyance	6	have interacted a great deal with DNFSB from across the
7	while public hearings at each site subject to DNFSB	7	sites.
8	oversight could be held. It's three months later, we	8	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you.
9	have not received a response from the Energy Secretary	9	MR. GILMAN: All right. The next speaker is
10	to our letter either.	10	Robin Mills from Peace Farm, Carson City, Texas.
11	On November 27th, just yesterday, we sent	11	MR. MILLS: It's actually Carson County, Texas.
12	MR. GILMAN: Thirty seconds remaining.	12	MR. GILMAN: I'm sorry.
13	MS. CRANDALL-ROBINSON: a letter to the	13	MR. MILLS: Thank you. Robert B. Mills, IV.
14	Senate and House Armed Services Committee requesting the	14	Thank you for noticing, I am the great-great-great
15	annulment of DOE Order 140.1. We want to really thank	15	grandson of the builder of the Washington Monument.
16	the DNFSB and the efforts that you have made at these	16	I grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, I went into the
17	hearings, and the letters, the redline strikeout effort,	17	Navy and graduated from Navy Nuclear Power School.
18	all of that.	18	CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: Congratulations.
19	We would like to ask in addition to the hearings	19	MR. MILLS: Thank you, Captain Crawford.
20	you have planned, one additional hearing in Washington	20	I served honorably in the Navy, and when I got
21	State to be focused on cleanup issues at Hanford, and we	21	out, I spent some time focusing on Fernald, and that was
22	call on the DNFSB to continue to exercise the full	22	early 1984. I spent several years of my life trying to
23	call on the DNFSB to continue to exercise the full extent of your authority in imposing the constraints	23	find out exactly how much waste and crime had been
23 24	call on the DNFSB to continue to exercise the full extent of your authority in imposing the constraints that limit access to facilities, people and information	23 24	find out exactly how much waste and crime had been committed in Fernald from approximately 1951 through the
23	call on the DNFSB to continue to exercise the full extent of your authority in imposing the constraints	23	find out exactly how much waste and crime had been

20 (Pages 77 to 80)

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	Glenn involved, primarily Lisa Crawford, thank you,	1	organization of local communities adjacent to or hosting
2	Lisa, and her organization Fernald Residents for	2	U.S. Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security
3	Environmental Safety and Health. Once John Glenn got	3	Administration facilities. Our communities are those
4	involved, he couldn't get through either. He was being	4	that will be directly impacted by how policies such as
5	lied to.	5	Order 140.1 are implemented.
6	Now, I notice that our DOE people have left.	6	Since the DNFSB hearing on August 28th, 2018,
7	They don't want to hear this, but it was outrageous.	7	ECA has met with DOE officials to share our concerns and
8	People were being murdered by our Government through	8	to better understand DOE's reasoning for the new order.
9	incompetence, and that's what John Glenn saw and why he	9	It was beneficial to speak with DOE directly and explain
10	started the legislation which resulted in DNFSB in 1988.	10	that while we agree with many of DOE's goals, such as
11	So you might say that I was the butterfly that	11	and including the need to improve operations, safety and
12	resulted in your organization, being kind of amusing.	12	decrease costs, the order needs clarification.
13	The plants are getting older. The materials are	13	We noted to DOE that in its current iteration,
14	getting stressed. Workers are older and they're getting	14	the order could negatively impact the DNFSB's efforts to
15	lackadaisical about what they're doing. Safety is	15	provide independent oversight, a critical function of
16	expensive. Safety is slower. Safety is frustrating.	16	the Board. We also identified that our primary concerns
17	But I just finished reading a very long expose on what	17	are in ensuring the safety of workers in communities at
18	happened at Fukushima by Bill Vollmann called No	18	the sites.
19	Immediate Danger, and the results of not being safe are	19	After our meetings with DOE, we concluded that
20	pretty severe. It's outrageous the bags and the	20	with some modification to the order, ECA could, in fact,
21	radiation that they had to deal with. Essentially, a	21	support implementing changes moving forward. We ask
22	small mistake resulted in a huge disaster costing	22	that DNFSB identify specific suggested language changes
23	trillions of dollars.	23	to the order and meet with DOE on the proposal to try
24	The public has a right to know that things are	24	and resolve differences.
25	being done safely, and I do appreciate DNFSB, and your	25	We found it entirely encouraging in Mr. Santos'
	82		84
1	efforts. I've noticed back in 2015, you had a nice	1	remarks today that the Board has created and reviewed a
2	report on Pantex where you made specific recommendations	2	redline of this order. We recommend that the DNFSB
3	on the physical site safety, and we at the Peace Farm	3	share this redline with DOE and with relevant
4	have been saying the same thing for many years. I was	4	stakeholders.
5	living back there in the '90s, and I was saying the same	5	We think this will help to clear up confusion
6	thing. Thank you very much.	6	and reconcile misaligned interpretations of the order.
7	So DNFSB has made some great moves, but now, as	7	We also think it will ensure that the order language
8	far as we can tell, this Order 140.1 is an attempt to	8	codifies the intent of DOE and not something else.
9	castrate the efforts of DNFSB and make it so that if	9	Primary clarifications that ECA would like to
10	anything embarrassing to the Government comes out, it	10	see include, but are not limited to, number 1: Access.
11	can be squashed. That's the way we see it at the Peace	11	DOE and NNSA staff seem to testify at the last hearing
10			
12	Farm. The Peace Farm is one of the member groups of	12	that the DNFSB would have access if requested to Hazard
12 13	Farm. The Peace Farm is one of the member groups of ANA.	12 13	that the DNFSB would have access if requested to Hazard Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to
			Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some
13	ANA.	13	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to
13 14	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here,	13 14	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some
13 14 15	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it.	13 14 15	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB,
13 14 15 16	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No!	13 14 15 16	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory
13 14 15 16 17	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you.	13 14 15 16 17	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB.
13 14 15 16 17 18	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you. MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir.	13 14 15 16 17 18	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB. Number two: Oversight on site. The language
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you. MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir. The next speaker is Megan Casper of Energy	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB. Number two: Oversight on site. The language attempting to define "public health and safety" as only
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you. MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir. The next speaker is Megan Casper of Energy Communities Alliance.	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB. Number two: Oversight on site. The language attempting to define "public health and safety" as only the health and safety of individuals located beyond the
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you. MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir. The next speaker is Megan Casper of Energy Communities Alliance. MS. CASPER: Chairman Hamilton, members of the	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB. Number two: Oversight on site. The language attempting to define "public health and safety" as only the health and safety of individuals located beyond the site is unclear. The language should be stated in a way
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	ANA. I want to say that I want to be emotional here, because too many people have been analytical about it. And I think that the public deserves someone to say, No! Thank you. MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir. The next speaker is Megan Casper of Energy Communities Alliance. MS. CASPER: Chairman Hamilton, members of the Board, I appreciate the opportunity to provide comment	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Category 3 or below sites, but the order appears to restrict this access. We understand that there is some reasonable terms that each party, meaning DOE and DNFSB, could agree to that in no way impacts the statutory authority of the DNFSB. Number two: Oversight on site. The language attempting to define "public health and safety" as only the health and safety of individuals located beyond the site is unclear. The language should be stated in a way that does not give the impression that the DNFSB should

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1	Number three, restrictions on access to	1 had conversations with DOE is helpful. We haven't	
2	information. Restrictions on predecisional, and other	2 actually had a sitdown communication with you at all, we	
3	similar information doesn't quite make sense in the eyes	3 have only received comments in this way. You talked	
4	of ECA, is unclear and too restrictive since many DOE	4 about the need for DOE and the Defense Board to work	
5	and NNSA decisions can be delayed for years. For	5 together to solve problems, and yet your recommendation	
6	example, would DNFSB only have access to information	6 is that we start with their order and then modify their	
7	after a record of decision or other similar action be	7 order to make sure it meets their intent.	
8	signed? Then, at that point, it may be too late for	8 So I guess my question for you is, you know, as	
9	input on an issue that impacts human health and safety	9 the Defense Board, I would have thought that the	
10	now.	10 solution set would be for DOE and for the Defense Board	
11	Based on our discussions with DOE, DOE's intent	11 to sit down and perhaps come together for a Memorandum	
12	seems to be to ensure that DNFSB is reviewing DOE's	12 of Understanding rather than try to rewrite an order	
13	decisions and not its analysis of options that may never	13 that's problematic at its base. And I just wanted to	
14 15	be pursued, but ECA's position is that needs to be clear in the order itself.	 14 know if you had any reaction to that. 15 MS. CASPER: Sure. I think there's definitely a 	
15 16	ECA maintains that the independent oversight	16 question of what should have been done, but that's not	
17	role that DNFSB fills is necessary for the safety of	17 one that I think ECA or its members in discussion of	
18	communities and its workers. In addition, DNFSB should	18 this order and in discussion of how we are to respond to	
19	also review its own operations. ECA has made	19 it, that's not really what we've talked about. Instead,	
20	recommendations to DNFSB in the past in this regard and	20 it's more discussion of what needs to be done now.	
20	these include: One, DNFSB should work together with DOE	21 So rather than dealing in hypothetical what-ifs,	
22	to ensure open communications and jointly develop	22 what could have been done, what should have been done,	
23	solutions to its problems identified in its reports;	23 what can be done now is the question we're hoping to	
24	two, DNFSB should prioritize communications with the	24 address.	
25	communities most directly impacted by the report and	25 And at the point where DOE has already as of I	
	86	88	
1	decisions in order to ensure that there are	1 think it was May this year implemented this order, Order	
2	opportunities for meaningful and timely input before	2 140.1, how can we moving forward ensure that it is	
3	recommendations are made; three, DNFSB should include a	3 amended or adopted to incorporate stakeholder interests	
4	cost benefit and risk reduction analysis to ensure that	4 and to incorporate the concerns that the DNFSB has.	
5	they take into account budgets and feasibility while	5 So I appreciate the point you're making, but I	
6	developing any recommendations; and finally, DNFSB staff	6 think that's not the way that ECA has been approaching	
7	members should heed its independent oversight role and	7 it.	
8	recuse themselves if any possibility of bias or	8 BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Okay. Thank you.	
9	opposition to a project exists.	9 MS. CASPER: Thank you.	
10	In closing, ECA encourages DOE work	10 MR. GILMAN: All right. The final speaker is	
11	cooperatively with the DNFSB and public stakeholders to	11 Lydia Dennett of the Project on Government Oversight.	
12	ensure that the language of the new order aligns with	12 MS. DENNETT: Thank you very much for the	
10		1 12 opportunity to commont today. My name is 1 yidio Depnett	
13	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency	13 opportunity to comment today. My name is Lydia Dennett,	
14	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and	14 I am an investigator with the Project on Government	
14 15	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear	14 I am an investigator with the Project on Government15 Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent	
14 15 16	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex.	 14 I am an investigator with the Project on Government 15 Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent 16 watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, 	
14 15 16 17	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will	 14 I am an investigator with the Project on Government 15 Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent 16 watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, 17 corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the 	
14 15 16 17 18	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their 	
14 15 16 17 18 19	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the record of today's hearing.	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their findings to achieve a more open and accountable Federal 	
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the record of today's hearing. With that, I thank you for your time. BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So, ma'am, before you sit	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their findings to achieve a more open and accountable Federal Government. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is 	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the record of today's hearing. With that, I thank you for your time.	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their findings to achieve a more open and accountable Federal Government. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is one such organization, and POGO is concerned that this 	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the record of today's hearing. With that, I thank you for your time. BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So, ma'am, before you sit down, can we just ask a few questions?	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their findings to achieve a more open and accountable Federal Government. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is one such organization, and POGO is concerned that this 	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	the Department's actual goals to increase the efficiency and safety of its interactions, and the health and safety of workers and communities supporting the nuclear weapons complex. We have prepared formal comments that we will supply to you and ask that it be submitted into the record of today's hearing. With that, I thank you for your time. BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: So, ma'am, before you sit down, can we just ask a few questions? MS. CASPER: Sure.	 I am an investigator with the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO. POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that investigates and exposes government waste, corruption and abuse of power. We work to support the independence of oversight agencies and amplify their findings to achieve a more open and accountable Federal Government. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is one such organization, and POGO is concerned that this DOE Order 140.1 significantly and improperly undermines 	

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Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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1	meaningful oversight of the matters that most affect	1	they may not want to come to light, but we feel strongly
2	public health and safety.	2	that DOE's obligations are to the public, and the
3	We know that DOE prides itself on ensuring its	3	interests of its contractors should only be considered
4	defense nuclear sites maintain the highest levels of	4	with an eye toward what is in the best interest of
5	safety and security standards, and this order appears to	5	taxpayers.
6	be intended to underscore the Department's commitment to	6	Time and time again, Government oversight
7	this and its possibility to manage risks and hold	7	groups, including POGO, have found that the Department
8	management accountable, but POGO's concern is that it	8	has been unwilling or unable to hold its contractors
9	may instead unduly restrict the Board's ability to	9	accountable. Congress created the Board to provide
10	thoroughly review and assess potentially catastrophic	10	additional accountability and review for issues that may
11	safety issues.	11	affect the safety of the communities around and within
12	POGO is particularly concerned about the order's	12	these cities. As the Department embarks or a trillion
13	requirements for how Department contractors should	13	dollar, 30-year plan to modernize the nuclear weapons
14	respond to requests for information from the Board. The	14	stockpile, it should not be curtailing any kind of
15	DOE outsources the operation and management of its	15	safety oversight.
16	Defense Nuclear Facilities to a select group of	16	I would further like to echo the other comments
17	contractors and contractor consortia, and the vast	17	that have been made today regarding some of the other
18	majority of workers at these sites are contract	18	issues. In particular, the narrowing the definition of
19	employees. In order to get the most accurate and timely	19	public safety to exclude worker safety. The Department
20	information, the Board needs to be able to work directly	20	has not yet provided a compelling reason for so
21	with the contractors managing the facilities.	21	dramatically reducing the scope of the Board's
22	Under this order, these contractors would be	22	jurisdiction, but the Board's track record shows how
23	required to refer all requests for information to a	23	important its work is for addressing these issues in
24	Departmental site liaison to determine an appropriate	24	particular. Its recommendations have led to several
25	response, and only after a response from the site	25	major worker safety improvements across the complex, but
	90		92
1	liaison would they be able to officially respond to the	1	without an official formal recommendation, the
2	Board. This seems like an unnecessary and impractical	2	Department, the Board and the public cannot track these
3	bureaucratic hurdle, especially since Government	3	concerns or hold facilities accountable if they fail to
4	employees at these sites are already often overburdened	4	address risks to worker health and safety.
5	with other contract management issues.	5	So we feel that the Department should welcome
6	POGO is further concerned about the role	6	the Board's involvement and participation in developing
7	contractor organizations may have played in the	7	an interface guidance that facilitates oversight rather
8	formulation of this order. At the August hearing	8	than restricting it. We strongly encourage DOE to
9	earlier this year, DNFSB Board members referenced a 2017	9	revise this order or put together a Memorandum of
10	memo from numerous DOE contractors requesting an	10	Understanding and work with the Board so that they can
11	evaluation of the Department's manual for working with	11	continue to issue robust and meaningful safety
12	the Board for revision and conversion into an order,	12	recommendations. Thank you.
13	indicating this process may have been undertaken	13	MR. GILMAN: That's the final speaker on our
14 15	partially at the request of the contractors.	14 15	list. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Veeh Lingt worted to
15 16	In response to your questioning, DOE confirmed that the team in charge of crafting the order did not	15	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Yeah, I just wanted to briefly make a small correction to your comments. The
10	formally incorporate any input from worker unions, the	17	• •
17	public or even the Board itself. We've seen that	17	Department of Energy did, in fact, reach out to us prior to the issuance of this order to get an input. In the
18	contractors have long complained that the Department's	18	first hearing, I gave the specifics on that. I don't
20	oversight practices are overly burdensome and requests	20	have the dates with me, but in effect you can go back
20	for information and data can be time consuming and may	20	and look at the first hearing to get the details.
21	not always result in recommendations that support the	$\begin{vmatrix} 21\\22 \end{vmatrix}$	The administrator of the NNSA offered me and the
22	contractors' interests.	23	Board a very short period of time to give very
23	This change in policy makes it easier for	24	high-level comments via just an email, but you are
25	contractors to hide under details or information that	25	correct, there was no formal review by the Board or its

23 (Pages 89 to 92)

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	staff, but there was this very quick informal	1	what facilities you all look at. Let me just give you
	opportunity for us to express our concerns prior to the	2	my quick thoughts on that. The facilities should be
	order's being signed out.	3	ranked, I think, and tied into the order. This is my
Ļ	So just a little bit of a nuance on that just	4	ranking of them.
;	for clarification for everybody. Thank you.	5	Let me just read this. And I'll submit this for
,	Go ahead, Mr. Gilman.	6	the record. I'll have to go back home and write this
,	MR. GILMAN: Yes. So that is	7	up. But nuclear weapons facilities, of course; the
	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Santos has something.	8	high-level waste facilities I knew ECA, I went to an
)	BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Yeah, thank you for	9	ECA meeting a year ago on that. They did a really good
)	clarifying. You know, it was informal, it was to the	10	job on that. That's highly important that no one messes
	Chairman, not to the Board members, and while I saw some	11	around with those.
	feedback provided, my understanding is none of that	12	Then you've got plutonium facilities are a high
	actually made it to the order, nor was there any reply	13	priority. Then it goes down, I'd say tritium, TRU Waste
	to such feedback. I just want to tell the full story	14	is lesser, uranium is less than that I think because the
i	there. Thank you.	15	doses are lower. I'm calling them pharmacies. Then
,	MR. GILMAN: So that was the last speaker on our	16	you've got low-waste facilities like WIPP, and then
,	list. Now we will take anyone else who is interested,	17	you've got decommissioning activities, which are some
	and we have someone right now. My apologies.	18	unless you're decommissioning a high-material facility,
)	MR. MASSEY: I put my name on the list, I wasn't	19	those are actually lower priorities. And I still
)	going to say anything, but I thought I could. My name	20	remember Mr. Crawford said that in 1991, or '92 at a
	is Herbert Massey. I have 47 years of nuclear	21	meeting, that decommissioning was easy and low-tech. So
2	experience, 21 commercial, 24 I worked on the Board's	22	I have a history in all that stuff.
	staff, and I have lots of comments in the past.	23	So I think if you order things and looked at
Ļ	My feeling is probably in between the two things	24	risks and consequences and how far the Board has to go
	I've heard here, so I will probably get both sides upset	25	into some of these things, you'd have more credibility
	94		96
	at me, which means I'm probably approaching truth, but	1	relative to DOE. I think that's really the point or the
2	what I well, first of all, I would say the access	2	issues that they're fighting.
;	question should be resolved in the sense that the	3	Joe Denino [phonetic] said something that was
ŀ	resident inspectors should have full access. Whatever	4	profound to me, and my first supervisor, Wes House
5	the NRC does, I think the Defense Board ought to have.	5	[phonetic], said the same thing. We're not working on
5	So I think that should be that should be taken off	6	safety for safety's sake, we want safe operations. We
7	the table.	7	want the plants to operate, but we want them to do it
3	One of the things I think that would help, and I	8	safely.
)	agree with what Mr. Crawford said, I learned a lot from	9	Now, I also strongly believe that most people,
)	him about line managers being responsible. The Board	10	there may be exceptions, most people generally want to
	issued a recommendation 93-3 to improve the technical	11	work in a safe environment. You know, we sometimes
2	capability of the DOE people, and that was 25 years ago.	12	forget that. No one wants to jeopardize and go home and
,	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 $	12	11 '4 4 ' C '1

And so the question is, well, where is that at? There

are good people in DOE. I've seen some. It depends on where you look and stuff and what level.

And I've seen some people -- I've seen a lot of good people, but, you know, there are holes here and there, and I recall Mr. Crawford one time, he said his goal would be looking down some day and seeing some of the staffers dispersed out in the DOE, and I think some of that has happened. Matt Moury and Ike and so forth. I remember those words were said in probably 1992 I think. One of the things I think has to be done with

the order is where I have the problem is the focus on

forget that. No one wants to jeopardize and go home and cause a problem with their family. One good model for this was -- I think I worked

on the Rocky Flats closure project, and there was an interface agreement that would have worked on other projects, I think. They had a split between the DOE scope, Defense Board oversight and like the EPA scope, and the state scope. Some of the stuff could be done by other entities. Defense Board didn't have to do everything. They worked on the high-risk stuff and then they cut it off and it still got done. Everything got done safely at Rocky Flats. That site is now gone, essentially. So that's an example.

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1	read I skimmed it a couple of months ago, but I read	1	something that reminded me of the NFL situation. These
2	it on the train coming down. There's some overreach in	2	are the players, you guys are the union reps, okay,
3	it, and I think the truth I think needs to be in	3	people bring to you issues of concerns about concussions
4	negotiation. I think the order probably goes too far,	4	and injuries, and the NFL owners, and the commissioners,
5	but I think what we did before was too far on our side.	5	they leave. They leave when the players, you know, are
6	I think the truth is maybe somewhere in between.	6	trying to present issues of safety to the people that
7	And I heard some good comments, like cost	7	should be hearing it.
8	benefits is important. You know, you don't want to	8	I can't for the life of me understand why one,
9	spend a billion dollars on something that's trivial.	9	two, three, four, five, six people get up here, talk to
10	And I remember Vic Staal [phonetic] one time when we	10	the people who take these issues seriously, and when
11	were starting at Rocky Flats, I won't tell you who, one	11	they're hearing when they should be hearing from the
12	of the group leads said, you mean we're going to spend	12	public, they leave. I'm sure they had very good reasons
13	\$2 billion on penny tarps for K-Reactor? And the guy	13	for leaving, which means I have no idea why they left,
14	backed of and said, no, no, I didn't mean that. That's	14	okay? It's a diplomatic way of saying that, okay? But
15	the kind of thing I'm talking about.	15	I'm sure they had reasons for leaving, but I can't
16	So, in summary, site reps ought to have full	16	understand why they're not here listening to people who
17	access, whatever NRC does, and then I think there needs	17	are living in situations where they're impacted in a
18	to be negotiation on the order. I think the truth is	18	very real way when it comes to lack of safety measures
19	somewhere in between. Those are my comments.	19	in nuclear facilities.
20	MR. GILMAN: Thank you, sir.	20	So, again, not trying to in any way, you know,
21	I'll just take this time to ask if anyone else	21	criticize you for your efforts. I know you're in a
22	who would like to make a comment. Yes, sir?	22	situation where you have to do what you think is best
23	MR. CRAWFORD: My name is Jack Crawford, I'm the	23	for the public, and I know you do, but the people who
24	son of Captain Crawford, and me being up here is the	24	should be hearing it, as much as anybody, aren't here.
25	ultimate irony, because when dad asked me to bring him	25	And I just don't know why. I just find that very hard
	98		100
1	down, I can tell you I never in my life thought I would	1	to believe. That's all I want to say.
2	be up here addressing you.	2	CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, you are looking
3	First of all, let me say that I know the very	3	at the proudest father on the planet.
4	fact that you have these meetings testifies to how	4	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Just for the record,
5	seriously you take the whole issue of nuclear safety. I	5	Mr. Crawford, Jr., there are DOE executives here, I'm
6	know that from listening to my father, I know it from	6	not going to identify them, but they're also monitoring
7	his stories of years and years and years of being in the	7	this. So I get your point, but I just wanted to modify
8	Navy. I'm sorry, what's your name, sir? This gentleman	8	it a little bit and make sure you're clear.
9	here, being in the Navy. And I know from his stories	9	CAPTAIN CRAWFORD: I stand corrected. Thank
10	that this gentleman's absolutely right. Getting through	10	you.
11	Nuclear Reactor School is incredibly difficult. I never	11	MR. GILMAN: Is there any other members of the
	could have gotten through it myself.	12	public that would like to make a statement?
		1	
12		13	(No response.)
	I know from talking to my dad and people who	13 14	(No response.) MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each
12 13 14	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a	1	
12 13 14 15	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In	14	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I
12 13 14	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of	14 15	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each
12 13 14 15 16 17	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because	14 15 16	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of	14 15 16 17	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks.
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because their standards are so rigorous that they have never had an accident.	14 15 16 17 18	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I will now turn to my fellow Board members for their
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because their standards are so rigorous that they have never had an accident. And I know that the Board in part is kind of	14 15 16 17 18 19	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because their standards are so rigorous that they have never had an accident. And I know that the Board in part is kind of coming out of that tradition. I kind of feel like,	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I will now turn to my fellow Board members for their closing remarks, if any. Board Member Santos?
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because their standards are so rigorous that they have never had an accident. And I know that the Board in part is kind of coming out of that tradition. I kind of feel like, watching this, I sort of feel like, I've spent my whole	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I will now turn to my fellow Board members for their closing remarks, if any. Board Member Santos? BOARD MEMBER SANTOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	I know from talking to my dad and people who have gotten through it, that the Navy has never lost a nuclear submarine. They've lost two submarines. In neither case was either one of them, the sinking of either one due to a nuclear accident. It's because their standards are so rigorous that they have never had an accident. And I know that the Board in part is kind of coming out of that tradition. I kind of feel like,	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	MR. GILMAN: Hearing no response, I thank each of our public commenters for speaking. At this time I will turn the proceedings back over to Mr. Hamilton for closing remarks. CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Gilman. I will now turn to my fellow Board members for their closing remarks, if any.

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1	and all the support personnel that made today's hearing	1	Mr. Chairman.
2	possible, as well as my fellow Board members.	2	CHAIRMAN HAMILTON: Thank you, Mr. Santos.
3	Ensuring public health and safety, that's what	3	Board Member Connery?
4	it's all about, and I take that very seriously. So our	4	BOARD MEMBER CONNERY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5	independent nuclear safety oversight mission continues	5	Thank you fellow Board members, and I want to thank the
6	to be extremely important, even after the 30-year	6	public for coming today and participating. I don't have
7	history of the Board. Especially when one studies the	7	prepared remarks, so I am going to ad lib, which is
8	challenges that are currently facing the Defense Nuclear	8	always a scary thing for those involved.
9	Complex.	9	I do want to associate myself with some of the
10	The issuance and implementation of Order 140.1	10	comments we have heard from the public. I think
11	is creating external pressures to this agency with the	11	Mr. Massey is right, you know, there are three sides to
12	potential to undermine the effectiveness of the Defense	12	every story, his side, her side and the truth. And I
13	Nuclear Facilities Safety Board in ensuring adequate	13	think the truth is probably in between, but what we have
14	protection of public health and safety. The message we	14	to look at are the words on the page. And again, I have
15	continually receive from the Department is there's no	15	full confidence that the Honorable Assistant Secretary
16	change.	16	White and her counterpart in NNSA are going to do the
17	So I ask myself, so why issue this order? I	17	best things that they can do for both public health and
18	just can't reconcile the language of the order with the	18	safety and to be good stewards of the public coffers.
19	theme of there's no change. So I am concerned that	19	That being said, we don't know what's going to
20	things will change as people implement this order. I	20	happen down the road. And those words on a page will
21	hope I'm proven wrong, and I do remain optimistic that	21	have effects in decisionmakers that will come after, and
22	we will be able to find a way to truly collaborate with	22	they actually already have effect even on the Board and
23	the leadership of the Department, to truly have a	23	the Board staff as we start to look at all of our
24	dialogue, to revise the order, to improve the interface	24	comments and decisions and say, how does this fit within
25	between the two agencies, or whatever other solution is	25	the order?
	102		104
1	out there. This is too important.	1	So we may be eroding safety accidentally, just
2	However, I need to recognize that it's equally	2	because we've looked at the order and the words on the

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However, I need to recognize that it's equally 2 3 important that the -- that we the DNFSB address our 4 internal issues that are also creating pressures and 5 undermining our performance and effectiveness in 6 ensuring adequate protection of public health and 7 safety. 8 These internal issues continue to be documented 9 in several recent studies, there is some press coverage 10 like Ms. Connery mentioned, such as the Inspector 11 General reports and a study conducted by the National 12 Academy of Public Administration. That is why I support 13 and look forward to the upcoming public business meeting 14 on December 20th, 2018, so we as a Board can address

15 internal issues with the same enthusiasm and

16 collaboration that we are using to address the external issues presented by Order 140.1. 17

18 I continue to express to my fellow Board members 19 that I believe the Board should be equally transparent 20 and timely until the December 20th upcoming meeting and 21 that is why I continue to encourage that we have a forum 22 similar to this one today where we are livestreaming the 23 meeting and we provide the public with an opportunity to 24 provide comments.

25 So this concludes my statement. Thank you, because we've looked at the order and the words on the page and we're now trying to retrofit everything we do into the words that were created by one party to a collaborative effort. And I think that's problematic and I think we have to worry about it.

7 I do understand that we need to prioritize. We 8 are a staff of fewer than 100 in a complex that is, you 9 know, tens of thousands. And so we can't look at 10 everything. We have to look at high-risk activities, but we also have to look at low and medium-risk 12 activities as well, because how the Department conducts 13 itself in those activities and how the contractors 14 conduct themselves are illustrative of how they're going 15 to conduct themselves in high-risk activities. 16

And so I have always used the analogy of we're like sticking a toothpick in a cake while you're baking to see what's sticky when you pull the toothpick out. In some cases it's going to come out clean and that's great; in some cases it's not. And it could describe a trend that we're going to see in other parts of the complex that could have high consequences for public health and safety.

And I do believe that we have responsibility to understand the risks to the workers and the collocated

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1 workers. Yes, they are highly trained, they know their 1 remarks. 2 bazards at their facility, if they're in that Defense 1 Ivouid now like to again thank the witnesses 4 boundaries and no have exquisite knowledge of the 1 1 Ivouid now like to again thank the witnesses 4 boundaries and no have exquisite knowledge of the 1		105		107
1 huzards at their facility, if they're in that Defense 1	1		1	
3 Nuclear Facility, but they could be within the site and the organizations and speakers today for supporting 4 boundaries and not have exquisite knowledge of the and the organizations and speakers today for supporting 6 They could be the delivery person providing consumables and the organizations and speakers today for supporting 6 They could be the delivery person providing consumables and the organizations and speakers today for supporting 7 They could be the delivery person providing consumables for this hearing was to gather information on the portinal inpacts of the Borthy and the formation and person and the 10 it's not going to be a good day for mybody in the permitted transpondent 12 Safety Board and the public in general. 11 13 So think we have to to ket toose things into 12 14 considerations with the public. You are one stakeholders 13 15 interactions with the public. You are one stakeholders 14 16 as well. Our responsibility and the mission of our space and and the public onmerat. 15 17 Mice state. 16 BOARD MERER SANTOS: Nineteen. 18 with he we can projecit that coninidiner to the public. 16 </td <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>				
4 boundaries and not have exequisite knowledge of the bacards of the facility that's collected with them. 4 this hearing. Lalso want to thank all those who is hown of the buildings. They could be folks on the ground who are training who don't have understanding of f to one of the buildings. They could be folks on the ground who are training who don't have understanding of f those hazards. And they're going to be ago day for anybody in the Department or anybody in the Defense Nuclear Facilities 6 9 11 Department or anybody in the Defense Nuclear Facilities 10 9 13 So 1 think we have to take those things into erroritors with the public in general. 11 12 13 14 consideration. And again, we look forward to interactions with the public. You are our stakeholders a sevel. Our responsibility and the mission of our factors in making sure that we can do our job well, and that we can project that the Department hould have a vested interest in making sure that we can do our job well, and that we can project that confidence to the public. 10 1 So thank you very much. 10 2 we have to be cognizant and cautious in that grave server up safety today. But it does happen and 1 think we have to be cognizant and cautious in that area. 108 108 Doe and the brond, I. so the same strong the public. Imean, you are articulate, and 1 think it shadways helps of things in peoperior. Thank you, W. Comery. 108 1 So thank you				
5 hazards of the facility that's collocated with them. 5 attended, either in person or vaide hardners. Uur 6 They could be the delivery person providing consumable 6 goad for this hearing was to gather information on the 7 those hazards. And they're going to be impacted and 7 Department's invitoramental Admagement interface with the 10 tit's not going to be a goad day for anybody in the 7 Department's invitoramental Admagement interface with the 12 Safety Board and the public in general. 11 Program. This was the second in a scrice of quot three 13 so I think we have to take those things into 13 14 binetractions with the public. You are our stakeholders 14 consideration. And again, we look forward to 13 14 binetractions with the public. You are our stakeholders 15 interact in making sure that we can do our job well, and 14 The So dhank you comis in their job expecting as the scenard testmony from the Assistant 20 interset in making sure that we can do our job well, and 14 Scretary for the Office of Environmental Management and the Management as well as public comments. We do appreciate it. 21 So thank you vary meth. 17 The scard well as public comments. We do appreciate it. 22 we have to be cognizant and cautious in that area. 106 100 1 <				
6 They could be the delivery person providing consumables in or of the buildings. They could be folks on the ground who are training who don't have understanding of it is not going to be agoed asy for anybody in the Department's Environmental Management interface with the Department's Environmental Management interface interactions with the public in general. 13 So I think we have to take those things into consideration. And again, we look forward to interactions with the public 'n general. Deface States's Sates's Board's Resident Inspector 14 yet to be determined. DORD MEMBER SANTOS: Nineteen. 15 interactions with the public 'n general. DORD MEMBER SANTOS: Nineteen. 16 as well. Our responsibility and the mission of our interest in making sure that we can do our job well, and that we can project that confidence to the public. The specific date is yet to be determined. 20 safety today. But it does happen and I think serve up safety today. But it does happen and I think we have to be cognizant and cautious in that area. The Board will consider the information gathered this morning to builic on engrey to the outer sone gain for making those comments from the public. I mean, you are articulate, and I think i always the Board I Reservers for participation at the learing. The record of this proceeding will remain open until December 28th, 2018. 1 So thank you very much. 1 This concludous the public hearing open a				6
7 to one of the buildings. They could be folls on the 8 ground who are training who dort have understanding of 9 those hazards. And they're going to be impacted and 10 ti's not going to be a good day for anybody in the 11 Department's anybody in the Defense Nuclear Facilities 12 Safety Board and the public in general. 13 So I think we have to take those Nuclear Facilities 14 consideration. And again, we look forward to 15 interactions with the public. You are our stakeholders 16 as well. Our responsibility and the mission of our 19 job. And therefore, the Department is doing its 19 job. And therefore, the Department is doing its 10 that we can project that confidence to the public, 20 because again, veryhody comes in their job expecting 21 because again, veryhody comes in their job expecting 23 safety, and nobody comes in their job expecting 24 screw up safety today. Hur it does happen and I think 25 botank you very much. 21 So thank you very much. 22 CHAIRMAN HAMLTON: Thank you, Mc. Coamey. 36 paraticipa				
8 ground who are training who don't have understanding of 9 9 those hazards. And they're going to be impacted and 9 11 Department or anybody in the Defense Nuclear Facilities access to facilities, information and personnel and the 12 Safety Board and the public in general. 11 13 So 10 think we have to take those things into 12 14 consideration. And again, we look forward to 13 15 interactions with the public : general. 13 16 our responsibility and the mission of our 13 17 genery is to oversee DOL, but if s also to provide you 16 18 with the confidence to the public. 17 19 job. And therefore, the Department is doing its 18 20 because again, everybody comes int their job expecting 38 21 secter up safety tobay. But i does happen and I think 14 22 we have to be cognizant and cautious in that area. 20 23 safety, and nobody comes int think ing that area. 21 24 The Board Hamber Robersan? 23 34 Board Membr Robersan? 33 35				
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	
I, Sally Jo Quade, CERT, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were recorded by me via stenotype and reduced to typewriting under my supervision; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which these proceedings were transcribed; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.	

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