



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

July 11, 2023

The Honorable Joyce Connery
Chair, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chair Connery:

This letter revises Deliverable 5.3.1, *New Nuclear Safety Order Authorization by Directives Review Board (DRB)*, of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Implementation Plan (IP) for Recommendation 2020-1, *Nuclear Safety Requirements*. In DOE's December 22, 2022, letter to the Board, DOE stated that the path forward decision per Deliverable 5.3.1 was to initiate a revision and develop a new chapter to DOE Order (O) 420.1C, *Facility Safety*. During the week of March 20, 2023, the DRB determined that the best approach is to develop a new and separate DOE Order focused on nuclear safety basis requirements, along with any necessary revisions to O 420.1C.

The new Order will create requirements that cover Unreviewed Safety Questions, Justifications for Continued Operations, Technical Safety Requirements, and Specific Administrative Controls consistent with the DOE IP commitments. The Order will also consider other safety basis topics related to 10 CFR 830, Subpart B, *Safety Basis Requirements*. The revision to O 420.1C would also include minor changes to consolidate existing safety basis related requirements into the new Order.

The IP anticipates the completion date for this effort to be December 27, 2024. The Department appreciates the input provided from the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board staff throughout the execution of the IP and looks forward to continued collaboration.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-903-7440.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garrett Smith".

Garrett Smith
Acting Deputy Director for Environment,
Health and Safety
Office of Environment, Health, Safety and
Security
Responsible Manager, Recommendation
2020-1, *Nuclear Safety Requirements*,
Implementation Plan