

Peter S. Winokur, Chairman
Jessie H. Roberson, Vice Chairman
John E. Mansfield
Joseph F. Bader

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



October 13, 2011

Dr. Paul J. Hommert
President and Laboratories Director
Sandia National Laboratories
P.O. Box 5800
Mail Stop 0101
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185

Dear Dr. Hommert:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) arranged for a member of your staff to provide a one-day short course in Human Factors Engineering (HFE) for the benefit of our entire technical staff on September 15, 2011. Dr. Caren Wenner, of your Human Factors and Statistics department, was the principal instructor. She was assisted by Dr. Courtney Dornburg, another Sandia National Laboratories HFE expert on temporary assignment at the National Nuclear Security Administration headquarters.

The Board would like to thank them for presenting the course to our staff. Dr. Wenner is an exceptional speaker; she knew the material, presented it extremely well, and had a high level of interaction with the audience. It was quite helpful that she was able to use examples from everyday life and from the Department of Energy complex to illustrate why this field is so vital to nuclear safety. Thanks also to Randy Castillo, of your Safety and Security Regulatory Support Program, who handled the arrangements for the class.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Winokur, Ph.D.
Chairman

c: Ms. Kimberly C. Sawyer
Mr. Michael W. Hazen
Mr. Stephen J. Ward
Mr. John R. Fellerhoff
Ms. Kimberly Davis
Mr. James Todd
Ms. Mari-Jo Campagnone