

CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN  
3RD DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND WATER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

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December 10, 2013

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Dr. Peter S. Winokur, Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Dr. Winokur and Board Members:

Oak Ridge, Tennessee has long played a significant role in the national security of our nation. Since the beginning of the Manhattan Project, the Y-12 National Security Complex has served not only the people of East Tennessee but our entire nation as America's premier nuclear security complex for 70 years.

While the complex will continue to serve a vital role in our nuclear legacy, as with any complex that has been in operation since 1943, many of the facilities are no longer in proper condition to serve the nation or to ensure the safety of our nuclear workforce. The Uranium Processing Facility will replace many outdated facilities and ensure we are able to continue the imperative mission of Y-12. Without the Uranium Processing Facility, our weapons complex will be unable to maintain our nuclear deterrent, which is simply not an acceptable option.

As with any project of this magnitude it is crucial that we move forward with proper oversight to ensure that the Uranium Processing Facility is built to safely serve our nation for decades to come. It is also crucially important that this is done in a fiscally responsible manner, and that the project is completed within a reasonable timetable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chuck Flei".

Chuck Fleischmann  
Member of Congress