

Peter S. Winokur, Chairman
Jessie H. Roberson, Vice Chairman
John E. Mansfield
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Larry W. Brown

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES
SAFETY BOARD**

Washington, DC 20004-2901



September 10, 2010

Dr. Joseph E. Shepherd, Ph.D.
Dean of Graduate Studies
California Institute of Technology
1200 E. California Blvd
MS 105-50
Pasadena, CA 91125

Dear Dr. Shepherd:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) is holding a Public Hearing and Meeting on October 7-8, 2010, to consider safety related design topics of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant Project (WTP) at the Hanford Site. The focus of this hearing and meeting is the Pretreatment Facility in the areas of pulse jet mixing, delivery of feed from the High Level Waste Tank Farms, the Pretreatment Facility safety basis, and hydrogen control.

The Board requests your appearance to present insights from your work related to the revised safety design strategy for hydrogen in pipes and ancillary vessels (HPAV) at WTP. We anticipate that your participation in this public meeting and hearing will provide needed information to the Board and DOE regarding explosion testing completed in support of the HPAV effort, formulation of the HPAV technical basis by Dominion Engineering Incorporated (DEI), and the HPAV related design criteria established by Bechtel National Incorporated (BNI). In order to efficiently accomplish the Board's goals, the format for this meeting and hearing will be limited to your responding to questions from the Board members—prepared statements will not be necessary, but can be, if you choose, submitted for the official record of the meeting and hearing. The agenda for the meeting and hearing is posted on the Board's web page, http://www.dnfsb.gov/pub_docs/public_hearings/all/ph.php (<http://www.dnfsb.gov>). The agenda will be updated periodically as preparations for the meeting and hearing are finalized. Please contact Mr. Timothy J. Dwyer (202-694-7000) or Mr. Steven A. Stokes (202-694-7143), to make the necessary arrangements for your attendance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter S. Winokur".

Peter S. Winokur, Ph.D.
Chairman