

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

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND WATER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4203
December 10, 2013

WASHINGTON OFFICE
230 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3271 (202) 225-3494 (FAX)

DISTRICT OFFICES
FEDERAL COURTHOUSE, SUITE 126
900 GEORGIA AVENUE
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402
(423) 756-2342 (423) 756-6613 (FAX)
200 ADMINISTRATION ROAD, SUITE 100
P.O. BOX 2001
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830
(865) 576-1976 (865) 576-3221 (FAX)
6 EAST MADISON AVENUE COURTHOUSE
ATHENS, TN 37303-4297

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 The Uranium Processing Facility will replace many outdated facilities and ensure we are able to continue the imperative mission of Y-12.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 black ink that reads "Chuck Flei".

Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress