



Department of Energy
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security
Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



September 15, 2014

Dr. Charles D. Ferguson
President
Federation of American Scientists
1725 DeSales Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Ferguson:

Thank you for your recent letter from the Federation of American Scientists to Secretary Moniz concerning the James E. Doyle matter.

The Department of Energy fully subscribes to the principle and importance of academic freedom at our laboratories, and will not tolerate retaliation against nor dismissal of employees or contractors based on the opinions they express in scholarly publications and presentations.

Without commenting on the particulars of Mr. Doyle's case, I have asked the Department's Inspector General to examine whether Mr. Doyle's termination resulted in whole or in part from the publication of an article he authored.

Your letter also raises an issue that, as you rightly point out, transcends the particular facts of Mr. Doyle's case, and that relates to the Department's process for review of scholarly articles for possible classified content prior to publication. In particular, the Federation has asked that the Department review and, if necessary, clarify those standards to eliminate potential ambiguities. That is a worthwhile and welcome suggestion, and we will undertake such a review as well.

Thank you again for your letter, and for the Federation's interest in the issues associated with this case. The Department of Energy together with the Federation recognizes the importance of independent research and impartial assessment of national policy options.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank G. Klotz".

Frank G. Klotz

