



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

Mrs Christine Bent,
Assistant Deputy Administrator for the Office of Global Material Security
Office of Nuclear Smuggling Detection and Deterrence
National Nuclear Security Administration
U.S. Department of Energy

17 May 2024, No. 5-4/52-1

Dear Ms Christine Bent,

The Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Estonia express our sincere appreciation for the invaluable collaboration and support provided by the Office of Nuclear Smuggling Detection and Deterrence (NSDD), National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), U.S. Department of Energy.

Due to the geographical location of Estonia, right next to Russian Federation, it is vital for us to raise the capability to protect our external borders and internal security from the attempts of Russian Federation to implement its aggressive imperialistic ambitions regarding neighbouring countries. It also has massive impact to the internal and border security of NATO and the EU as well.

In this context, we are profoundly grateful for the assistance, professional expertise, trainings, joint exercises, expert evaluations, and specific equipment provided by the US NSDD. Your contributions significantly enhance our capacity to identify and repel smuggling, transporting and illegal use of harmful hazards while strengthening our internal security capabilities.

Please extend my gratitude to your staff, who did an exceptional job of making cooperation within TOR successful. We are extremely thankful to Ms Lindsey Strain for her remarkable dedication and tremendous efforts.

Moreover, we recognize the extensive experience, resources and world-class expertise in different security areas that your agency possesses.

I look forward to continuing our partnership and further discussions on how we can work together to address security challenges effectively.

Sincerely,

Lauri Läänemets
Minister of the Interior