

## Summary Report of Occurrences Reviewed From October 20 – 24, 2008

**Summary:** 28 occurrences at 14 sites reviewed during this period.

### Significant Occurrences (2)

#### **Industrial Hygiene Exposure – 2 occurrences at 2 sites**

- **SC – Argonne National Laboratory (Significance Category 3).** On October 21, while responding to a pre-alarm of a smoke detection sampling system in Building 216, firefighters smelled engine exhaust from a propane-fueled forklift that was being used to assemble an electron microscope. The firefighters used a portable instrument to measure air quality, which alarmed audibly and displayed 80 ppm of carbon monoxide. The forklift was shut off and seven personnel within the building were evacuated. The area was ventilated until the carbon monoxide level was near zero and occupancy was then allowed. The seven personnel were evaluated for exposure and found not to require treatment. The forklift had been operating about one and a half hours within the building. The 8 hour time weighted average for exposure limits was calculated to be below OSHA permissible exposure limit of 50 ppm and American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists threshold limit value of 25 ppm.
- **EM –Savannah River Site (Significance Category 3).** On October 7, a personal air sample collected at the Salt Waste Processing Facility construction site during concrete mudmat drilling activities exceeded the permissible exposure limit for respirable silica quartz for a period of less than 4 hours. The personal air sample was collected in the breathing zone of a worker who was operating a pneumatic drill used to make approximately 30, 1-inch diameter, holes in the concrete mudmat. During drilling, a second worker applied water from a hand-tank sprayer to suppress the dust. Previous baseline surveys and monitoring during this type work were below limits. Drilling was suspended pending a critique and implementation of alternate controls that require full-face air-purifying respiratory protection for concrete mudmat drilling and cutting activities.

**Other Occurrences (26).** See Table (Note: The Table includes the occurrences listed above).

| Occurrence Category                             | Number of Occurrences |      |    |           | Number of Sites |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|----|-----------|-----------------|
|                                                 | E&E                   | NNSA | SC | DOE Total |                 |
| Injury - Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Safety | 3                     | 2    | 1  | 6         | 5               |
| Near Miss                                       | 0                     | 0    | 1  | 1         | 1               |
| Authorization Basis                             | 1                     | 3    | 1  | 5         | 5               |
| Radiological Concerns                           | 1                     | 0    | 2  | 3         | 2               |
| Environmental                                   | 0                     | 0    | 1  | 1         | 1               |
| Fire Safety                                     | 0                     | 0    | 0  | 0         | 0               |
| Shipping/Quality Assurance                      | 0                     | 1    | 0  | 1         | 1               |
| Criticality Concerns                            | 0                     | 0    | 0  | 0         | 0               |
| Industrial Operations                           | 1                     | 0    | 0  | 1         | 1               |
| Conduct of Operations                           | 2                     | 3    | 1  | 6         | 6               |
| Electrical Safety                               | 1                     | 0    | 1  | 2         | 2               |
| Vehicle Accident                                | 0                     | 0    | 0  | 0         | 0               |

| Occurrence Category         | Number of Occurrences |           |          |           | Number of Sites |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
|                             | E&E                   | NNSA      | SC       | DOE Total |                 |
| Equipment Failures          | 0                     | 1         | 0        | 1         | 1               |
| Safeguards and Security     | 0                     | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0               |
| Suspect & Counterfeit Parts | 1                     | 0         | 0        | 1         | 1               |
| Other                       | 0                     | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0               |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>10</b>             | <b>10</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>28</b> |                 |

### Secretarial Office Summary

|                                          |                |           |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| National Nuclear Security Administration | 10 occurrences | (3 sites) |
| Office of Environmental Management       | 10 occurrences | (7 sites) |
| Office of Science                        | 8 occurrences  | (4 sites) |