

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

November 10, 2006

**TO:** J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director  
**FROM:** R. Todd Davis/Donald Owen, Oak Ridge Site Representatives  
**SUBJECT:** Activity Report for Week Ending November 10, 2006

A. Site-Wide Fire Protection. In response to a Board letter dated August 18, 2000, a ten-year comprehensive corrective action plan was developed to address fire protection issues at Y-12. As noted last year (see 10/28/05 site rep. report), limited funding has recently impacted the execution of these corrective actions. This week, the site reps. and staff discussed the status and plans for completing these corrective actions with YSO and BWXT personnel. BWXT noted that the plan needs to be updated to account for anticipated infrastructure reduction activities and prioritized based on safety impact of the corrective actions. YSO plans to provide specific criteria to BWXT for prioritizing and updating the plan. The site reps. inquired with YSO management on the need to formally communicate the delays and path forward for this project to the Board in the near term.

B. Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility. Construction progress continues with the Mechanical Equipment Building (MEB) structure, which is largely completed, and with concrete placements for the main storage area. BWXT anticipates completion of concrete placements for the main storage area Performance Category (PC)-3 structures by mid-2007. As reported on August 4<sup>th</sup>, BWXT management had been developing criteria to support reduction of BWXT's Quality Assurance (QA) compensatory measures for concrete placements (additional pre-placement checks by BWXT). BWXT management noted to the site reps. that while these checks continue to show satisfactory work by the construction contractor, BWXT senior management has decided not to reduce the QA compensatory measures and to utilize them for all remaining PC-3 structures.

BWXT has recently submitted a revision to the Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis (PDSA). In this revision, BWXT proposed a change to the MEB natural phenomena performance categorization from PC-2 to PC-1. YSO is reviewing the PDSA and expects to issue a Safety Evaluation Report addressing the revised PDSA in the next few weeks.

C. Fissile Material Container Labeling. BWXT has completed initial deployment of a container labeling system that ensures inclusion of all parameters important for criticality safety (see 9/1/06 site rep. report). This system is now being used on most transfers of containers between storage areas.

D. Site-Wide Quality Assurance. Based on QA issues identified at Y-12 earlier this year, BWXT developed a comprehensive site-wide corrective plan (see 9/1/06 site rep. report). This week, the staff and site reps. discussed the status and completed actions for this plan with YSO and BWXT personnel. Nineteen specific corrective actions have been completed in the five major initiative areas with the overall plan scheduled for completion in Fall 2007. BWXT noted that an initial supplier forum had been conducted earlier this year to meet with subcontractors involved in work at Y-12 and describe the QA requirements and expectations. In addition, the procedures for identifying quality levels and methods have been completed. BWXT noted that a corporate-level review of progress on the corrective action plan is now planned for early-2007.