

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

February 1, 2008

TO: K. Fortenberry, Technical Director
FROM: R. Quirk and W. Linzau, Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Activity Report for the Week Ending February 1, 2008

Tank Farms: The Office of River Protection (ORP) released a report on their assessment of the implementation of specific administrative controls (SACs). The report identified significant gaps between the guidance in DOE-STD-1186, *Specific Administrative Controls*, and actual SAC implementation. The problems, some having relevance to the waste spill at tank S-102, include:

- A failure to document the technical basis for acceptable radiological monitoring criteria when the monitoring is used in lieu of a material balance during waste transfers,
- Material balance monitoring intervals are not consistent with ALARA principles,
- A failure to require a hazard analysis for changes to a SAC-required process control plan,
- A failure to clearly establish when a SAC noncompliance is a Technical Safety Requirement violation,
- A failure to consistently require independent verification of SACs, and
- A number of issues related to SACs for waste transfer pump controls.

Canister Storage Building (CSB): The latest version of the DOE-approved Fluor Hanford Quarterly Startup Notification Report lists a new activity at the CSB involving fuel from the River Corridor Closure field remediation sites. The activity involves seal welding of the Found Fuel Containers in the CSB and then transferring them to the Interim Storage Area. The startup reviews will be accomplished by a contractor management assessment starting in February 2008, but the activity start date is not until October 2008. The site rep questioned contractor management if their assessment was being conducted to achieve readiness versus verifying readiness.

K Basin Closure: The revised Plan of Action (POA) for the restart of Spent Nuclear Fuel operations includes operations inside the CSB, when previously the scope of the Operational Readiness Review stopped at the roll-up doors. The site rep questioned the exclusion of the CSB vent and purge system from the new POA, and the contractor and RL are evaluating this decision.

The project is preparing to pump the water from the K East Basin and then fill it with controlled density fill. The site rep walked down the water removal system, which was in the final stages of field implementation. It is expected that the dewatering of the basin will start next week and will continue around-the-clock for three weeks.

Richland Operations Office (RL): D. Shoop has been named the deputy manager of RL. He has been acting deputy manager since M. Weis became the manager of the Pacific Northwest Site Office in August 2007.