

Health Safety & Environmental Protection Committee

2012 Priority and Strategic Planning Discussion

March 8, 2012

Site Risks:

- Radiation – alpha, gamma, beta, neutrons
 - Plutonium (joint w/ TWC) – IM: Becky, Tom
 - What is the possibility of criticality?
 - Sludge samples – is disturbance allowed?
 - How many tanks are affected?
 - How is plutonium being monitored?
 - Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) – IM: Tom
 - RAD Con program – IM: Tom
- Chemical
 - Beryllium – IM: Keith, Mike
 - continue to monitor
 - Chemical vapors: IM: Tom
 - Concern that Industrial Hygiene Technician (IHT) is no longer required for transfers
 - Update on monitoring program
 - Do they have appropriate instruments to detect all of the vapors that present a risk to humans/environment?
 - What is the status of other recommendations from the Concerns Council Independent technical assessment of tank vapors? *“Independent Review Panel Report on Chemical Vapors Industrial Hygiene Strategy”*
http://hanfordconcernscouncil.org/download/report_irp_20101027.pdf
 - Asbestos IM: Keith (lead), Tom, Becky
 - How are workers trained for asbestos exposure?
 - Concern over who gets trained and how workers are trained (awareness training vs. asbestos worker training)
 - Due to budgetary concerns, asbestos worker training requirement was eliminated for HPT tech working alongside asbestos abatement operators causing more risk
 - Where are the current areas of high risk?
 - What does this issue encompass? What are the lessons learned?
 - Hydrogen (joint w/ TWC – can TWC provide update?)
 - Receive update from DOE – monitor hydrogen issues
 - Vit plant design concerns
 - Is there hydrogen build up in the pipes?
 - Is this issue covered in the SAR?
- Biological

- West Nile – spring time issue
- Update via call w/ DOE (how are biological controls being managed?)
- Hanta Virus – is this an issue?
- Maintenance
 - Electrical: contractors need to pay attention to safety issues
 - Presentation from RL on infrastructure maintenance conduct of ops and lock out tag out implementation (Ray Corey – DOE presentation)
 - Concern over DOE policy of running to failure
- Traffic (is advice needed?) IM: Becky, Laura
 - Hanford site traffic status update: Weather - who decides the roads are safe and when workers can leave during inclement weather? And how do they determine road conditions and how is that reported throughout the day? Who assesses the road conditions? (dirt/dust in summer, snow/ice in winter)
 - Elk/deer – hazard awareness is needed for workers
 - Risks associated with long worker shifts (12 + hrs) – bus transportation analysis to include environmental impacts of multiple cars on road vs. fewer with bus transportation
 - Where are the locations for high probability of an accident? (Rt 240/ Rt 3, Rt 240/Rt 11)
 - Vit plant feed materials options: trucks vs. trains
 - Parking of empty squad cars is a safety issue
- Environmental
 - Waste storage
 - Waste transportation (joint w/ TWC)
 - What is the safety risk associated with transporting waste
 - Gas discharge from vit plant – what is going into the atmosphere? What are the functional requirements?
 - What is the maintenance plan for the Vit plant and potential worker exposure? What are the stack emissions/Ph levels?
 - Review of Safety Analysis Report (SAR) – what are the safety basis assumptions?
 - Waste processing
- Decommissioning and Decontamination workers/laborers – exposure, HAMTC

Safety Culture/ISMS Concerns:

- Gravity – slips, trips, falls, falling tools, cranes and rigging and hoisting, fork lifts
- Incidents that lead up to serious accidents
- Provide site specific examples in advice
- Concern with how DOE contracts are written and oversight
- Role of fac reps at contractor and subcontractor levels
- Behavioral
 - Safety culture – responding to employee concerns

- Focus on attitudes of senior management and less on “paper”
 - Principles of behavior
 - Work place violence - ISM
 - Employee substance abuse during operation - ISM
- Training (include training examples w/ ISMS?)
 - Inadequate training – especially labor dispatched from the union hall
 - Update on HAMMER trainings
 - Worker training – is there too much emphasis on computer based training?
Presentation from DOE on computer based training and why DOE thinks it is effective.
 - Level of worker understanding when completing computer based training
 - How much hands-on training is provided?
 - Issues of anonymity with surveys – is there a better way to collect this info?
 - How much advanced training will be needed for operating WTP?
 - Are contractors permitted to provide their own trainings? What is the rationale behind this?
 - What are the budget impacts to providing training to workers?
 - Need better training and procedures but difficult to understand which procedures to follow – system is hard to understand
 - What is the backup plan when people are laid off and how is that skill replaced/covered?
 - What are the drivers that lead to mistakes happening? Encourage inquiry of why there was an issue.
 - Would a shut-down be an option to establish better procedures?
 - Concern over turnover of contractors and hiring sub contractors – do the requirements flow down to contractors and is there oversight?