

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

February 10, 2017

**TO:** S. A. Stokes, Technical Director  
**FROM:** P. Fox and D. Gutowski Hanford Site Representatives  
**SUBJECT:** Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending February 10, 2017

**Hanford Site.** Adverse winter weather conditions continue to affect site operations. Work was terminated early on Wednesday and the site was closed on Thursday due to snow and ice.

**Tank Farms.** The contractor started operational acceptance testing for systems that are part of the automation project to monitor temperatures and annulus levels (see Activity Report 1/27/2017). The testing started with components installed in AP farm.

The contractor started their first double-shell tank (DST) to DST transfer since last June (see Activity Report 6/10/2016). The transfer from AP-103 to AY-101 started on night shift Thursday to run over the weekend. In order to address vapor concerns with waste disturbing activities, the contractor issued a standing order that establishes supplemental controls similar to those used for AY-102 retrieval (see Activity Report 11/23/2016).

ORP approved the safety basis amendment that adds a new Specific Administrative Control to protect existing safety-significant components from potential over-temperature conditions due to new in-pit heaters (see Activity Report 9/2/2016).

**Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF).** The contractor's Hazard Review Board (HRB) met to review the first work package that supports recovery of the WESF canyon after grouting activities resulted in a high radiation field (see Activity Report 12/23/2016). The work package is designed to allow workers to manipulate the temporary duct that houses the strontium particle or particles that are causing the high radiation in an attempt to get the material to fall back into "C" hot cell. The workers will use long reach tools and will be protected by temporary shielding while performing the work. The HRB meeting was conducted professionally and included substantive involvement by both voting and non-voting members, as well as RL subject matter experts and the Facility Representative. The HRB approved the work package with comments.

**Plutonium Finishing Plant.** Although slowed by winter weather conditions, the demolition team continues to work toward resumption of Plutonium Reclamation Facility demolition (see Activity Report 02/03/2017). The team is working to identify and implement improved contamination control methods based on lessons learned from the ARA boundary continuous air monitor alarm event. Their primary focus is on dust control while moving ground level debris and while loading the waste cans.

**Waste Treatment Plant.** The joint ORP and contractor working team continues its efforts to develop approaches that can be used by contractor personnel to improve the quality of the Low Activity Waste Hazards Analysis (HA) and Preliminary Documented Safety Analysis (see Activity Report 1/20/2017). They have performed an initial screening and evaluation of all HA events, then piloted improvement methods, and selected one for use by the contractor's nuclear safety personnel.