

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

July 28, 2017

TO: S. A. Stokes, Technical Director
FROM: M. T. Sautman and Z. C. McCabe, Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Savannah River Site Resident Inspector Report for Week Ending July 28, 2017

D. L. Burnfield assisted with resident inspector duties this week.

H-Canyon: DOE believes the recent Potential Inadequacy in the Safety Analysis for H-Canyon and HB-Line related to the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel structural integrity (see 6/16/17 report) warrants a revalidation of procedures, processes, and personnel needed to appropriately respond to a seismic event. DOE requested that a joint SRNS/DOE evaluation of the preparedness of facility operations to respond to a seismic event be completed by August 11. The assessment will consist of interviews, an integrated tabletop review and walkdown, and a procedure review.

Fire Department (FD): Since the Board's 1/20/10 letter on aging fire department apparatus, SRNS has purchased two new pumpers, leased new ladder and rescue trucks, remounted three ambulances, and developed a methodology for evaluating the need for future replacements. The FD has three 24-year old pumpers. One is permanently out of service. Their normal service life is 10-15 years. SRNS plans to replace these over the next four fiscal years. The ladder truck lease expires in 2019 and SRNS may purchase it. The FD also has a hazardous material truck and a rescue truck that are both 22-years old and their planned replacements are even further out.

Savannah River National Laboratory: Directly adjacent to the outside of the laboratory shielded cells lies a services trench that allows electrical lines and piping to enter the cells from a level slightly below floor level. Construction and laboratory personnel have decontaminated the trench and painted it so that it is only slightly contaminated. In addition, construction personnel have been installing new services in the trench. This work required the removal and reshaping of the plates which normally cover the trench. In preparation for returning the trench to an operational status the plates are being reworked and returned to their original positions. In the process of reworking the plates, construction personnel dropped one of the plates into the trench. The staff attended a fact finding following the event. During the review, participants identified several deficiencies in work planning and control and engineering.

DOE-SR Facility Representative Oral Boards: The Board's staff attended the oral boards for three prospective facility representatives for the Salt Waste Processing Facility. While the boards were conducted professionally and in accordance with site office procedures, two of the three candidates were unable to successfully advance. These candidates will sit for an additional oral board after successfully completing remedial instruction.

Solid Waste Management Facility: An extendable fork lift caught fire over the weekend while the facility was closed. While the forklift is normally used inside of radiologically controlled areas, for the weekend it was parked outside of any radiological area and no personnel were involved. The fire damaged three other pieces of equipment. A cursory review of the cause of the fire has been performed; a more detailed causal analysis is underway. There may be some similarities between this fire and other fires in the DOE complex.