

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 29, 2017

**TO:** S. A. Stokes, Technical Director  
**FROM:** P. Fox and D. Gutowski, Hanford Resident Inspectors  
**SUBJECT:** Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending September 29, 2017

**PUREX Plant.** The contractor completed installation of the grouting lances and associated work platform to support Storage Tunnel 1 grouting. They also performed a Hazard Review Board chair review of the work package for grouting. They intend to place the first lift into Storage Tunnel 1 early next week during night shift.

**Waste Treatment Plant (WTP).** ORP authorized the contractor to resume High Level Waste (HLW) Facility procurement and construction following completion of directed criteria, notably the approval of the updated HLW PDSA (see Activity Report 9/22/2017). This approval removes conditions placed on HLW procurement and construction activities from the conditional approval in 2014 (see Activity Report 8/22/2014). ORP reiterated their expectation that the contractor adhere to engineering and nuclear safety process improvements described in the HLW Facility Completion Plan. HLW activities will be constrained in the near term by competing priorities.

**Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF).** RL approved Revision 1 of the Safety Design Strategy for the cesium and strontium dry storage project. They also determined that the design and safety basis changes to WESF do not constitute a major modification.

**Tank Farms.** The contractor completed recirculation of caustic with the remaining tank waste in C-105 and performed a pumpdown to Tank AN-106 (see Activity Report 9/1/2017). They continued their retrieval strategy with a water addition to the tank and are currently recirculating the water. During the caustic circulation, the portable exhauster that supports C-105 retrieval experienced several unplanned shutdowns that paused operations. The contractor is continuing to troubleshoot the exhauster.

**618-10 Burial Ground.** Based on removal of material from the site, RL reduced the hazard categorization of the 618-10 waste burial ground to less than Hazard Category (HC)-3. They also canceled the related DSA. However, the approval letter requires the contractor to continue application of 10 CFR 830, Subpart A, Quality Assurance Requirements to ongoing work. It also requires the contractor to use an Unreviewed Safety Question like process to ensure that assumed material at risk present at the waste site remains below HC-3 threshold quantities.

**Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP).** The contractor conducted a drill at the PFP site. The scenario was initiated by a continuous air monitor alarm shortly after simulated removal of one of the remaining gloveboxes from 234-5Z. The simulated event included an Alert and facility take cover.

**Office of River Protection.** Kevin Smith, Manager, Office of River Protection, will retire from federal service on September 30. Benton Harp, Deputy Manager, will serve as the acting manager.

