

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 20, 2022

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: L. Lin, Z. C. McCabe, E. P. Richardson Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Savannah River Site Activity Report for Week Ending May 20, 2022

H-Canyon: H-Canyon personnel attempted to replace the 6W sump liquid level jumper with a jumper from the lay-down yard that was fabricated to the 15W sump liquid level jumper specifications as all warm canyon sump liquid level jumpers are the same. When H-Canyon personnel attempted to install the jumper, they noted that the openings on the jumper did not properly line up. As such, H-Canyon personnel requested a new jumper be fabricated according to the 15W sump liquid level jumper drawing specifications. They attempted to install the jumper last week and found the same issue existed. During an issue investigation, SRNS personnel discussed two main problems that led to this error. First, the 15W jumper drawing used for fabrication was incorrect. H-Canyon personnel determined that this was likely due to copying a hot canyon jumper drawing and editing it; however, they inadvertently did not change the configuration of the jumper openings from the hot canyon configuration to the warm canyon configuration. In addition, SRNS personnel noted that those involved had an inaccurate assumption that the issue with the jumper was with the fabrication rather than the drawing specifications. H-Canyon personnel have identified several corrective actions, including correcting the 15W sump liquid level drawing and performing an extent of condition review of other similar drawings. Additionally, H-Canyon personnel are evaluating a revision to their procedures to include a verification prior to fabrication or installation to preclude similar events from occurring in the future.

Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL): The resident inspector and facility representatives performed a walkdown of the SRNL ventilation systems, including the Off-gas Exhaust System, Central Hood Exhaust and Process Hood Exhaust. The walkdown included major components such as HEPA filters, exhaust fans and safety significant instrumentation.

K-Area: K-Area personnel discussed the feedback the resident inspector provided on several of their procedures. Some of the feedback have been incorporated into the procedures. For example, in the procedure for down blending K-Area Interim Surveillance daughter cans, some steps require approval from a Material Balance Area (MBA) custodian before proceeding and the steps are later repeated for multiple shipping packages. The procedure was changed to add labels to clarify which MBA custodian was contacted for each shipping package. In another instance, some steps required personnel to initial both in the body of the procedure and in an attachment for the completion of a step. These have been streamlined to just require initialing on the attachment. The resident inspector and personnel discussed other potential improvements in the procedures where the wording could be clarified, step numbers that continue onto additional pages could be listed at the top of the page, and instances where the precautions and limitations section and notes in the procedures are repeated and could be trimmed down.