

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

October 21, 2022

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: B. Caleca, P. Fox, and P. Meyer, resident inspectors
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending October 21, 2022

DNFSB Staff Activities: The resident inspectors were in Washington, DC, to brief the Board and attend meetings.

Tank Side Cesium Removal (TSCR) Process: Tank operations contractor (TOC) personnel entered the TSCR process enclosure under maintenance mode to begin valve position indicator and camera work (see 10/7/22 report). Initial surveys performed by health physics technicians (HPT) did not identify significant contamination above the floor grating of the enclosure but access to certain valve locations requires access below the floor grating. As a result, HPTs performed pre-job surveys below the grating to support the work. During this activity, they identified contamination exceeding the radiological work permit limits and personnel exited the TSCR enclosure. The enclosure was then radiologically posted based on the data collected. A resident inspector called into a post-job ALARA review that was held to discuss what occurred. HPTs noted two locations where contamination was higher than expected. This may indicate a leak exists in the process piping. TOC personnel are developing an investigative survey to identify potential sources of the contamination prior to continuing maintenance activities.