DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

January 6, 2006

TO: K. Fortenberry, Technical Director
FROM: R. Quirk and W. Linzau, Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Activity Report for the Week Ending January 6, 2006

Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP): The intumescent fire coating used on structural steel has indications of rainwater damage in the Pretreatment and the Low Activity Waste facilities. During a walkdown, the site rep noted that many locations on columns and beams in both facilities have bubbles, delamination, and peeling of the coating. These facilities do not have roofs or exterior walls yet, hence they are exposed to the weather. As a result, rainwater flow is not controlled and potentially can come into contact with the intumescent coating anywhere in the facilities. The extent of the damage has not been quantified yet but the damage to the coating appeared to be extensive. A seal coat was applied to waterproof the intumescent coating and should have prevented this type of damage. The contractor is writing a construction deficiency report and assembling an assessment team to evaluate the problem.

Tank Farms: CH2M Hill Hanford (CHG) Engineering completed their technical evaluation of waste lines that could have had freeze damage (see Hanford Activity Report for 12/16/2005.) Fourteen waste lines, ranging in size from two to ten inches were identified as potentially impacted. Engineering determined that only five of the lines will require a hydrostatic test before they are used again solely because of potential damage due to freezing. Five different lines already require hydrostatic testing before they are returned to service because of unrelated commitments to the Washington State Department of Ecology. It was determined that the remaining four lines will not require hydrostatic testing. CHG plans to present their recovery plan to the Office of River Protection next week.

The S-112 waste retrieval continued this week. The remote water lance was used to break up all remaining hard waste. The site rep observed a pre-job brief for removal of insoluble waste that had settled to the bottom of the tank. Approximately 97% of the waste has been removed from the tank.

K Basins Closure (KBC): Construction testing of the Hose-in-Hose transfer line for transferring containerized waste from K East to K West Basins commenced this week. The integrated system acceptance testing that will demonstrate total system operability is scheduled to start in approximately two months.

Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP): PFP management determined that the fire protection piping that was noted to be severely corroded (Hanford Activity Report 12/23/2005) requires replacement.

Richland Operations Office Management: David Brockman has been assigned to the position of the Federal Project Director of the K Basins Closure Project.
cc: Board Members