

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 19, 2003

TO: J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director
FROM: Donald Owen, Oak Ridge Site Representative
SUBJ: Activity Report for Week Ending September 19, 2003

The site rep. was out of the office on Wednesday.

A. Y-12 Conduct of Operations. As reported last week, BWXT issued a "Conduct of Operations Improvement Plan" to YSO. Included in the plan was an action to assign a full-time Conduct of Operations Improvement Program Manager, reporting to the BWXT General Manager, to direct implementation and refinement of initiatives in this area. That assignment was made this week. The Plan remains under review by DOE-YSO. (1-C)

B. Y-12 Building 9204-2E Disassembly Glovebox. Installation and preparations are underway for startup of a new disassembly glovebox in early 2004, with initial operations intended for a specific weapon system. Regarding the level of startup review, late last week DOE-YSO approved a BWXT recommendation to downgrade from an Operational Readiness Review to a Readiness Assessment (RA). YSO noted that the glovebox operation does not present a substantial modification to facility operations and the additional passive safety-significant design features of the glovebox involve simple operational checks. The approval document also noted that the YSO Manager will retain startup authority and the YSO RA will be focused on review of the passive safety design features. (2-A)

C. Recommendation 2000-2. This week YSO requested cost and schedule estimates to (1) develop System Design Descriptions or equivalent documentation for safety systems, (2) ensure verification of adequate injection and sample ports for HEPA filter testing, and (3) ensure adequate understanding of requirements, design and operation of fire dampers located in ventilation systems. This request is based on recommendations resulting from Phase II-type assessments across DOE sites that are discussed in an NNSA Headquarters memorandum to NNSA site offices dated August 1st. At Y-12, development of full System Design Descriptions to DOE STD-3024, *Content of System Design Descriptions*, will require some level of effort beyond the technical design basis information available on most safety systems (often lacking are system requirements and detailed functional descriptions). (1-C)

D. Y-12 Building 9204-2 Material Storage. As reported on July 17th and May 23rd, the site rep. and staff inquired with Y-12 management about the level of deactivation performed on the large amount of electrical and mechanical equipment associated with three Environmental Rooms in a nuclear material storage area. BWXT management had determined that records of past work performed on this equipment did not indicate any substantial deactivation activity had been performed. This week, the site rep. observed BWXT management and fire protection engineering personnel perform a walkdown assessment of this equipment to identify any hazards, particularly fire hazards, and identify any necessary deactivation actions. The removal of debris and other combustibles from a partially energized electrical panel since May was noted. The walkdown resulted in identification of pumps and systems needing to be drained of oils and other fluids, other combustibles needing removal, and need for followup checks to confirm electrical power has been isolated from certain equipment. (2-A)

cc
Board Members