

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

February 8, 2008

TO: K. Fortenberry, Technical Director
FROM: R. Quirk and W. Linzau, Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Activity Report for the Week Ending February 8, 2008

Plutonium Finishing Plant: The contractor declared a potential inadequacy of the safety analysis (PISA) due to a loss of negative pressure in building 2736-ZB. Maintenance on a supply fan caused a greater negative pressure in Zone 2A, which caused an imbalance in Zone 2B due to airflow through a gap under a door. During system response, a loss of the TSR-required negative pressure occurred in Zone 2B. Surveys of the boundaries did not detect any spread of contamination. The control of airflow in the affected zones is being evaluated by project engineers to determine the appropriate corrective actions.

Solid Waste Operations Complex (SWOC): The site rep met with the DOE facility representative to discuss a positive Unreviewed Safety Question concerning highly degraded drums in the 200 West low-level burial grounds. During retrieval activities in the burial ground, a module of drums was discovered with degradation beyond that assumed in the documented safety analysis. Approximately 20 percent of the drums in this module are severely corroded and have lost structural integrity.

Adverse Weather Conditions: The Hanford site has experienced two weeks of adverse weather that has slowed or stopped progress on outdoor work activities. Last week the site shut down for a day because of significant accumulation of ice and snow, and this week the site has been battered by wind storms. Steady winds of about 40 miles per hour with gusts as high as 71 miles per hour were recorded on-site. Electrical power was secured to several 200 West Area tank farms because of hazardous conditions associated with overhead power cables. The high wind prompted an early closure of the site Thursday afternoon due to poor driving conditions.

K Basin Closure: The project started de-watering the K East Basin but had to stop after filling three tanker trucks because the trucks are prohibited from driving when wind speeds are greater than 25 miles per hour.

Tank Farms: The start of S-102 spill soil removal continues to be delayed due to the adverse weather conditions. The site rep and the DOE Director of Tank Farm Operations Division discussed the plans for closing the corrective action for the Type A accident investigation and the DOE oversight of these corrective actions.

Waste Treatment Plant: The contractor has completed the authorization basis amendment request for tailoring requirements from DOE Standard 1066, *Fire Protection Design Criteria* (see Hanford Activity Report 8/24/07).