

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

MEMO TO: J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director
FROM: Timothy Hunt and Dave Kupferer, Pantex Site Representatives
DATE: 27 October 2006
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Weekly Report

DNFSB Staff Activity: R. Rauch was onsite to observe the contractor readiness assessment for W88 cell restart operations. R. Rosen and outside expert D. Boyd were at Pantex to observe the first week of the NNSA readiness assessment for B83 SS-21 operations.

Master Tester List (MTL): Based on a requirement in DOE Order 452.2B, *Safety of Nuclear Explosive Operations*, BWXT requires all cables and adapters that support testing operations, which introduce electrical energy into a nuclear explosive, to be labeled "MTL Equipment Control". MTL equipment has specific requirements regarding equipment control, storage, maintenance, calibration, and use. Last week, production technicians that were being trained on the W62 program appropriately questioned why a cable and adaptor that were to be used during electrical tester operations were not labeled as MTL equipment. BWXT process engineering conducted a complete audit and verified that the cable and adapter in question were the only MTL equipment that had not been appropriately labeled.

Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (ORPS): An analysis by a PXSO facility representative concluded that 78 ORPS reports of significance category 3 or higher were finalized in fiscal year 2006 (FY06). The average time from discovery to finalization was approximately 50 days; exceeding the 45 days required by DOE-231.1-2, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*. Approximately 345 ORPS corrective actions were developed in FY06. Of these actions, 65 were completed past their respective due dates.

Building 12-64 Transition: BWXT has developed a plan to transition non-nuclear explosive activities that are currently being performed in facilities that are authorized for nuclear explosive operations to bays in Building 12-64. The plan includes re-locating shaker table operations, canned subassembly manifold operations, gas sampling cart set-up, container rework, and nuclear explosive operations training. Building 12-64 is only authorized for non-nuclear explosive operations. This transition is expected to free up at least four other bays that are approved for nuclear explosive operations. The relocation of the activities is scheduled to be completed in December 2007. At that time, Building 12-64 will house five staging bays, six training bays, and six non-nuclear explosive operations bays. Repackaging, container refurbishment, staging, and sealed insert container surveillance will be re-located to an alternate facility during the next year to provide capacity in 12-64 to accommodate the aforementioned non-nuclear explosive activities.

BWXT's FY06 Accomplishments: BWXT's programmatic accomplishments during FY06 include completion of the W56 dismantlement program, completion of the W70 component dismantlement program, and startup of B61 and W87 SS-21 operations. BWXT also completed the facility startup and readiness activities associated with the new Mass Properties Bay, the Paint Bay, and the Computed Tomography Bay. BWXT has established a number of goals for FY07. Among these goals, BWXT has identified the need to focus on improving construction project management.