

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

June 1, 2001

**TO:** J. K. Fortenberry, Technical Director

**FROM:** D. F. Owen, RFETS Site Representative

**SUBJECT:** RFETS Activity Report for the Week Ending June 1, 2001

**Plutonium Stabilization and Packaging System (PuSPS).** As reported last week, the site rep. discussed with DOE-RFFO and Kaiser-Hill personnel certain weaknesses in evaluation of root causes and any programmatic deficiencies (as required by DOE Order 425.1, *Startup and Restart of Nuclear Facilities*) in resolving findings of the DOE Operational Readiness Review (ORR). Kaiser-Hill has been revising corrective action plans to address that issue and continued with finding resolution. The site rep. and staff continue to review resolution of the ORR findings and discussed additional questions with DOE-RFFO and Kaiser-Hill regarding resolution of findings dealing with specific criticality limits and contamination control.

DOE-RFFO personnel noted to the site rep. that in addition to resolution and closure of DOE ORR pre-start findings, RFETS is awaiting final agreement from the Savannah River Site on the RFETS DOE-STD-3013 outer can weld qualification, and is awaiting final agreement from DOE-Albuquerque on sufficient representation of RFETS oxides in the Material Identification and Surveillance Program that supports long-term plutonium storage. DOE-RFFO projects resolution of these issues as well as closure of the DOE-ORR pre-start findings during the week of June 4<sup>th</sup>. (3-A)

**Building 707 Decontamination and Deactivation (D&D).** The site rep. observed the results of recent Building 707 cleanup activities. With plutonium residue processing and metal sizing and storage activities completed, Building 707 personnel have been cleaning out glovebox lines and reconfiguring certain areas for waste handling and temporary storage. In addition to the residues removed from Building 707, many kilograms of plutonium in glovebox holdup material have been removed to support the recent closure of the Building 707 Material Access Area (and pending RFETS Protected Area reconfiguration). These efforts have contributed to a reduction in building/site risk, particularly seismic risk.

Major D&D work in Building 707 will be starting during the next several months. Most highly contaminated gloveboxes and related equipment requiring size reduction will be prepared for movement to Building 776 for size reduction in the planned Inner Tent Chamber. (3-B)

cc: Board Members