

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

March 19, 1999

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** G. W. Cunningham, Technical Director

**FROM:** T. Dwyer and H. Waugh, Pantex Site Representatives

**SUBJECT:** Pantex Plant Activity Report for Week Ending March 19, 1999

**DNFSB Activity Summary:** H. Waugh was leave all week. T. Dwyer was on site Tuesday through Thursday, but on leave Monday and Friday.

**W56 Dismantlement Program:** M&H has evaluated on-site storage requirements for [partially disassembled] W56s and determined that sufficient space exists in Zone 4 to continue attempting mechanical dismantlements with the existing tooling, while awaiting delivery of the redesigned removal tooling. A memorandum requesting permission to move the first 2 units to Zone 4 has been forwarded to AAO. Due to procurement and NES review requirements, first use of the tooling is not expected for at least 6 to 8 weeks.

**W87 Life Extension Program (LEP):** The contractor readiness review [*sic*] of the W87 LEP, originally scheduled to precede work on units #3 and #4, resumed on Friday following a 9 day suspension. Prior to resuming the review, M&H drafted page changes to the W87 HAR and ABCD, which were subsequently approved by DOE-AL. Additionally, the W87 LEP NEOPs were revised, and training for the PTs on the revised NEOPs was completed.

In the mean time, DOE-AL directed M&H to submit a revised Authorization Agreement (AA), which was ultimately approved late Monday, allowing M&H to work additional units prior to enforcement of the HAR/ABCD control set. Work on units #3 and #4 actually commenced prior to resumption of the contractor readiness review. By COB Friday, however, DOE-AL had directed M&H to be prepared for the DOE-AL readiness review prior to commencing work on any other units. Of note, M&H has reported that Unit #3 is experiencing the same silastic potting material problems previously seen on unit #2.

**BIO Upgrade Program:** Tuesday AAO and M&H conducted an internal BIO Upgrade Program Review, focusing on 2 aspects of the program: the CSSM-to-TSR conversion, and the Transportation BIO Module. Although significant work still remains, M&H committed to formally submit the TSRs converted from existing BIO/CSSM documents to AAO by April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Transportation BIO Module schedule also shows an April deliverable, although it was revealed during the program review that the project team has not considered internal Zone 12 movement of partial weapons assemblies.

**AL-R8 Sealed Insert:** The schedule for start up of the AL-R8 Sealed Insert packaging line appears to be slipping again -- parts for the purge and backfill station were not delivered on time. Additionally, the vendor supplying the rolled tubing used to construct the Sealed Inserts has informed M&H that it will not be able to meet the required 200 units/month delivery rate.