

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

July 17, 1998

TO: G. W. Cunningham, Technical Director
FROM: D. G. Ogg, Hanford Site Representative
SUBJ: Activity Report for Week Ending July 17, 1998

Staff member Ralph Arcaro was on site during the week assisting with site representative duties.

A. Spent Nuclear Fuel Project (SNFP): On July 14, Mr. Ogg attended a meeting of the SNFP Baseline Review Board. This local review board is tasked with validating the SNFP proposed baseline schedule and cost estimates on a sub-project by sub-project basis. The Review Board is finding inconsistent cost estimating practices among the sub-projects, and double, or even triple, application of contingency within the baseline. Resolution of these discrepancies could lead to identification of additional funds or potential for acceleration of some project activities.

In other project work, CVD first article testing has not yet begun and is about one week behind schedule. Fuel Retrieval System and Integrated Water Treatment System (IWTS) progress also remains slow. The IWTS components that were to be shipped from South Carolina following the factory acceptance test (completed in early June) are still in the fabricator's shop.

B. Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP): On July 16, Mr. Ogg toured PFP with the DOE-RL Facility Representative. Babcock and Wilcox Hanford Co. (BWHC) workers are preparing to move fissile material that was being stabilized in the muffle furnaces at the time of the PFP shutdown in 1996. The material is to be moved by Transition Operations personnel and assayed for inventory purposes. While Transition Ops has not completed its Operational Readiness Review (ORR), facility management and DOE-RL have authorized limited operations with the use of compensatory measures including a senior supervisory watch. Unrestricted operations will resume following the contractor and DOE-RL ORRs, originally expected to be complete in October 1998, but now potentially 2-3 weeks behind schedule.

C. Site-wide Systems Engineering: Integration of the major projects that support clean up of the Hanford Site is progressing well. As the Management and Integrating (M&I) Contractor, Fluor Daniel Hanford (FDH) is using Lockheed Martin Hanford Company's systems engineering expertise to perform this function. Mission requirements from such sources as the Hanford Strategic Plan, the M&I contract, and the Tri-Party Agreement form the basis for the Hanford Site Integrated Baseline. The requirements for this baseline are maintained in a relational database that includes such information as material flow, waste streams, time requirements, and facility life cycle. Using this information, FDH is able to model the future clean up approach, determine its feasibility, and identify potential conflicts. Identifying optimization needs is a future enhancement to this program.

cc: Board members