

DRAFT - NOT REVIEWED FOR CLASSIFICATION

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 19, 1998

TO: G.W. Cunningham, Technical Director

FROM: P.F. Gubanc, Oak Ridge Site Representative

SUBJ: Activity Report for Week Ending June 19, 1998

A. Y-12 Enriched Uranium (EU) Operations: Phase A1 EU operations continued to gather momentum this week. To date, five EU castings have been poured (two additional were scheduled for Friday) and two billets were rolled into plate. On Friday, machining commenced on the first cast shape. Rolling was delayed in starting due to Tuesday's dropping of a heated EU billet inside the glovebox between the hot salt baths and the rolling mill (observed by Mr. Gubanc). No injuries or significant equipment damage resulted.

B. Visit by Gene Ives, DP-20: On Friday, DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary Gene Ives visited Y-12 and was accompanied by Mr. Gubanc. Most of the day was spent touring. Highlights were:

1. Restart of Phase B EU operations is estimated to take 15 months. After full scale casting operations resume, the contractor claims Phase B will be essential in 16 months to preclude impacting Phase A operations. Mr. Ives requested proposals to shorten the 15 month restart.
2. Observing the first machining of an EU cast shape since the standdown.
3. Observing the machining of depleted uranium parts, observing assembly and disassembly operations, and touring the lithium processing building.
4. An "ugly tour" of the site's infrastructure, some of which is in dire need of repair. The contractor strongly advocated increasing Y-12's infrastructure annual budget to 2% of the site's replacement cost. (This equates to roughly a **50 year** replacement cycle!)
5. Natural phenomenon upgrade sub-projects for Buildings 9204-2 and 9204-2E will be canceled based on preliminary safety analysis. An upgrade for Building 9212 E-Wing will proceed.

C. Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS): A combined Phase 1 and 2 ISMS verification is planned for Y-12 EU operations the week of July 13. The ISMS verification team, led by Joe King, DP-HQ, is scheduled to be at Y-12 on June 23-24 to prepare for this review. Mr. Gubanc intends to observe these visits.

D. Administrative: Mr. Gubanc was provided the study materials late this week for all the necessary training to access the Y-12 EU facilities. The goal is to complete the majority of the qualifications by the end of next week.

cc: Board members