

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

August 20, 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 August 20, 1999

DNFSB Activity Summary: H. Waugh was on site all week. T. Dwyer was on military leave all week.

W56 Dismantlement Program: The 3rd primary of the first group of separated primaries has been resisting further disassembly. A new procedure is being prepared for another attempt, but complete dismantlement is not expected until some time next week. Another primary-secondary joint separation has been successfully accomplished, and, while awaiting resolution of the current primary (cell) problem, an additional separation has been started in the bay.^[II.B.2.a]

AL-R8 Sealed Insert (SI): All pit packaging activity in Building 12-64 was terminated last Friday and preparation for movement of all operations to Building 12-99 was initiated. The [contractor] Readiness Assessment was completed late last Friday, all findings were closed, and the revised Authorization Agreement for Building 12-99 was signed on Wednesday afternoon. AL-R8 SI pit packaging in Building 12-99 began on the graveyard shift Thursday morning. Working 2 shifts, 5 pits have been repackaged on the new line as of Friday afternoon. However, packaging of 4 of the 5 is not complete because of problems with the [new] purge and back fill station. Design Agency personnel were on site during start-up to conduct follow-up Engineering Evaluation (EE) activities. Of note, M&H management believes that the goal of packaging 5 pits per day per line was achieved during that latter days of operation on line #1 before it was shut down -- thus, management is confident the throughput desired by the Design Agencies will ultimately be achieved.^[II.B.2.b]

W62 D&I Program: The M&H W62 Program Manager now anticipates being prepared for a contractor Readiness Assessment the week of October 25th. The program schedule calls for a subsequent NESS to take place some time in November. The W62 HAR was delivered to AAO on schedule on Wednesday. In the meantime, M&H has been conducting walkdowns of the new disassembly NEOPs/tooling: nearly a dozen issues have been identified, and several tooling modifications (including 1 additional new tool to be fabricated) will be required.^[II.B.2.a]

W79 Dismantlement Program: The DMSO holding tanks from Work Stations #1 and #3 have been removed and relocated to be cleaned. Following cleaning, the holding tank from Work Station #3 will be installed on Work Station #1, while the tank with the leak is repaired. It appears that it will take at least all of next week to complete these repairs.^[II.B.2.a]

Lightning Issues: This week, M&H was expected to deliver to the DOE/AAO a revised lightning JCO. The delivery did not take place. It is understood that the document did not meet M&H Manager Dr. Weinreich's expectations. The earliest that delivery is now expected is the middle of next week.^[II.B.2.b]