

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 1, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR: G.W. Cunningham, Technical Director
FROM: T. Dwyer and H. Waugh, Pantex Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Activity Report for Week Ending May 1, 1998

DNFSB Activity Summary: Harry Waugh was on site all week. Timothy Dwyer was on site Monday and Friday, and attended training off-site Tuesday through Thursday. James Troan was on site Tuesday and Wednesday with the Biannual National DOE Decommissioning HQ/Field Liaison Group.

Building 12-116: The SNM Component Staging Facility (Building 12-116) contractor ORR was completed this Friday. Seventeen functional areas were reviewed by a 22-man team, resulting in 51 pre-start findings, 17 post-start findings, and 18 observations. The contractor ORR team concluded that the facility is neither ready to operate, nor ready for the DOE ORR. Key findings included safety basis discrepancies that precluded clear demonstration of facility compliance, equipment that remained either untested or deficient, and procedural/operational shortcomings. Several programmatic deficiencies were also identified, including findings regarding NEPA documentation, fire protection, configuration management, and unclosed MSA findings. The M&H path forward will probably involve recalling a portion of the contractor ORR team to observe selected evolutions and review corrective actions when Building 12-116 personnel can demonstrate full compliance with the authorization basis safety envelope.

Building 12-64: A letter issuing the Authorization Basis change to allow M&H to add 3 more Building 12-64 bays to the W69 Dismantlement campaign has been forwarded to DOE-AL and is awaiting signature. AAO has also granted M&H permission to begin using Bay 13 for sand-bagged staging, which was already an approved activity per the existing Authorization Basis.

Pit Issues: At a meeting between DOE-AL, AAO, LANL, and LLNL on Friday, April 24th, all parties reportedly agreed that the primary objective is to get all pits into an inert environment as quickly as possible. Although LLNL initially advocated placing all W48 and W54 pits into AT-400As, LANL successfully argued that the AL-R8/Sealed Insert met all pit environment requirements, and allowed for a significantly easier surveillance process. Therefore, DOE-AL will structure the Integrated Pit Storage Program Plan (IPSPP) to place the W48s, W54s, and Enhanced Surveillance Program pits into Sealed Inserts immediately, with prioritization of other pit families to be determined in the near future. The AT-400A program will be held in reserve.

W79 Dismantlement Program: The W79 Project Team briefed DOE-AL on Thursday concerning the resolution of open items remaining from the recently completed reviews (i.e., NESS, Safety Evaluation, Readiness Assessment, and DP-3 (Stello)). Agreement was reached on three key [prestart] actions:

- (1) M&H will perform a SQUG walkdown of the facilities using 0.3 g acceleration as the evaluation criteria. If the facilities pass this walkdown, the NESSG will close their finding.
- (2) Lightning issues, though raised by the NESS in several minor findings, are more of a DP-3 concern and will be resolved to DP-3 satisfaction.
- (3) M&H will upgrade facility wiring to meet National Electric Code (NEC) Class II Division 2.g criteria.

Personnel Issues: The Site Representatives observed a Pantex Facility Representative Oral Examination Board on Friday. Both the candidate and the Oral Board performed satisfactorily.

**Attachment
Upcoming Pantex Events:**

May 4-8 -- JOWOG [no longer including lightning workshop]

May 4 -- W79 NESS Meeting w/ Ives/Twining [NESS Report presentation]**

May 5 -- Bldg 12-104A Paint Bay Milestone 2 Meeting

May 5 -- W88 Insert Meeting**

May 5-6 -- NESE Working Group meeting (@ DOE-AL)**

May 7 -- B61-11 NESE Briefing to DOE-AL Manager (@ DOE-AL)**

May 12-13 -- START III Interagency Working Group Workshop**

May 15 -- W79 FDU [doubtful]**

May 19-20 -- DP Staffing Workshop (@ Las Vegas, NV)**

June 1-12 -- W56 SIRR**

??June 1-12?? -- Building 12-116 DOE ORR**

June 2-3 -- DOE Lightning Workshop (@ DOE-AL)**

June 3 -- W87 ASSET Final Management Team Review

??Jun?? -- W56 NESS SIID validation [adequacy review]

June 9-19 -- W62 NES Revalidation

June 29-July 31 -- W56 NESS

??Jul?? -- Building 12-116 startup**

July 9-13 -- NES Electrical Tester Master Study SIID validation [adequacy review]

???? -- B61-7 Limited Readiness Assessment**

July 30-August 26 -- NES Electrical Tester Master Study

August 28 -- Bldg 12-104A Paint Bay MSA commences

April 1999 -- W76 HAR and ABCD complete**

NOTES: ** highlights events which are new listings or for which schedule has changed