

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 9, 1997

TO: G. W. Cunningham, Technical Director
FROM: P.F. Gubanc & D.G. Ogg, Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Activity Report for Week Ending May 9, 1997

A. Worker Injuries at Canister Storage Building (CSB): On May 6, a construction contractor (Mowat) carpenter fell from scaffolding 24 feet above the ground. He was saved by his body harness although he struck his head requiring several stitches. On May 7, a Mowat ironworker was caught between two 30 foot long steel I-beams, fracturing his hip. Hospital examination revealed no internal injuries. All work at the CSB is stopped until further notice. Mowat, a Duke- Fluor Daniel team, and DOE-RL each commenced investigations on May 8.

B. Flammability of Anti-Contamination Clothing: On May 7, a Bechtel Hanford, Inc. (BHI) subcontractor laborer was torch cutting large steel plates in a contamination area. Despite flame-resistant boot covers (worn *under* his coveralls), chaps and jacket, the anti-contamination clothes (anti-c's, 65% polyester/35% cotton blend) near his heel caught fire. The worker was not injured. BHI has stopped all hot work requiring the wearing of anti-c's until it has completed its review. BHI is examining the use of flame-retardant anti-c's as well as alternative cutting methods which are not as hot.

C. PNNL Configuration Management (CM) Program: On May 7, Mr. Gubanc was briefed on a new PNNL initiative to create a CM program. Near-term objectives include developing and implementing 1) a component labeling program (starting with the 325 lab), 2) a consolidated automated service request process, 3) a work prioritization process, 4) updated work review, release and monitoring processes, and 5) an operational acceptance process. Mr. Gubanc's initial impression is that PNNL is showing good initiative but they must be cautious not to allow their implementation to precede the development of rigorous processes. Gubanc will follow up.

D. Tank Farm Labels and Drawings: As discussed in previous reports, Lockheed Martin (LMHC) has established a tank farm labeling and drawing reconstitution project. After months of preparation, this week the project team concluded their efforts to relabel and issue updated drawings for the first tank farm, BX farm. Over the next couple weeks, LMHC and DOE-RL management will be invited to inspect this farm to build support for this effort. Mr. Gubanc has invested considerable time with LMHC to ensure implementation is both smooth and rigorous.

cc: Board Members