

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

TO: G. W. Cunningham, Technical Director
FROM: T. Dwyer and H. Waugh, Pantex Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Activity Report for Week Ending July 3, 1997

DNFSB Activity Summary: Harry Waugh was on site all week. Timothy Dwyer was at Board Headquarters Wednesday and Thursday.

Lightning Protection: The Kimball Merewether report on lightning protection has been endorsed by SNL management. All three Design Agencies and AAO met on July 2nd to discuss the issues raised in this report. Following lengthy discussions, it was agreed that Pantex (M&H) would propose a path forward, to be submitted to AAO next week. Pending a review of the proposal, Zone 12 activity will continue under the restrictions outlined in last week's report.

AT-400A Contractor ORR: The AT-400A Contractor ORR concluded July 2nd. At the close-out meeting, the ORR Team reported 62 prestart findings, 27 poststart findings, and 31 observations. In spite of this, the team was positive about the overall picture, and concluded that the findings could be corrected in short order. The proposed schedule is as follows:

- July 8th - all prestart findings closed, all poststart action plans approved
- July 9th - verification of closure complete
- July 10th - M&H General Manager submit Readiness to Proceed letter to AAO

DOE has not yet accepted this schedule; the DOE ORR start date (July 14th) is in jeopardy.

B61-3 Recovery: Disassembly of the B61-3 unit involved in the June 6th event remains at issue. After significant infighting, SNL and LANL have agreed to proceed with a SIER specifying that the condition of the unit be verified using the LINAC. The LINAC shot could take place late next week. (NOTE: 3rd straight week LINAC shot projected for following week.)

B83 QIP Disassembly: During disassembly of a B83 QIP weapon, the unit failed a PT- 4030 test, indicating that the first of two valves in a particular C/D system function had failed. In the past, B83 tester functionality has been suspect, but a subsequent check of this PT-4030 indicates it is functioning properly. LLNL has been tasked to determine whether to test the second valve in the system, or to ascertain the condition of the valves radiographically.

Pit Relocation: Due to rising temperatures in the 12-26 Pit Storage Vault, selected pits are being relocated. Those pits of greatest (thermal) concern are being moved to 12-44 cell 8. Others are being moved to Zone 4. All moves are being coordinated with Design Agency personnel.

W69 NESS: Findings of the W69 NESSG were formally briefed to Bruce Twining (AL) on July 1st. Feedback from the briefing is that Twining will sign the latest version of this NESS.

Attachment

Upcoming Pantex Events:

July 7 -- W87 SEP starts

July 9 -- ISP Senior Managers Meeting

July 9 -- DOE/M&H Quarterly Production Meeting

July 14 [tentative] -- DOE AT-400A ORR starts [if M&H ORR done]

July 22 -- W87 SEP starts

July 28-August 8 -- W56 WR Dismantlement Demo for HATT

Week of August 11 -- Major Sitewide Emergency Exercise

August 11-15 -- W56 Project Team and SE Validation

August 13 -- W78 SS-21 Milestone I meeting

August 18 -- W56 WPRR starts