

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

April 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR: J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director
J. J. McConnell, Deputy Technical Director
FROM: R. T. Davis/ T. D. Burns
SUBJECT: SRS Report for Week Ending April 2, 2004

EM Headquarters HLW Review: In response to the Board's March 24, 2004 letter on tank space vulnerabilities, a senior federal review team consisting of Mr. Paul Golan, Mr. George Cunningham, and Mr. Roy Schepens visited SRS on Wednesday to discuss potential alternatives for mitigating these vulnerabilities.

Implementation of Worker Protection Requirements: In March, DOE-SR communicated concerns to WSRC regarding worker protection for activities associated with energized systems (i.e., hazardous energy control). DOE-SR cited several recent incidents in which work was being performed dangerously close to energized electrical equipment or hot steam lines. An assessment of hazardous energy control performed by DOE-SR outlined three primary concerns.

- Improper implementation of procedures leading to work in energized areas being performed without lockout/tagout.
- Removal of OSHA requirements during the transition to the Automated Hazardous Analysis procedure
- Incomplete incorporation of regulatory requirements and incomplete field implementation of safety requirements during the streamlining of site procedures

WSRC has developed corrective actions to address the DOE-SR concerns. In addition, a root cause analysis followed by corrective actions will be developed to ensure streamlining activities are performed appropriately.

HB-Line: On Monday, DOE-SR provided direction to WSRC on additional processing requirements for HB-Line Phase I and II. DOE-SR identified miscellaneous plutonium scrap and alloy materials (the equivalent of approximately 100 DOE-STD-3013 cans). Most of this material will be processed through the Phase II furnaces; however, plutonium beryllium scrap will be dissolved in the Phase I dissolvers. Currently, WSRC is dissolving uranium bearing material in the Phase I dissolvers. This campaign should be complete this Fall. In Phase II, WSRC is preparing to start the neptunium campaign which is scheduled to be finished in late-2005. DOE estimates that these additional materials will require approximately 1 year of HB-Line operations.

Glass Waste Storage Building #2: On Tuesday, DOE awarded the construction contract for the second Glass Waste Storage Building (GWSB#2) to the Krog Corporation of Orchard Park, NY. For this contract, the Krog Corporation will partner with former Tritium Extraction Facility construction contractor, Bell Technologies. The contract value is approximately \$55 million. In contrast to general site practice, this project is being managed directly by DOE-SR. Actual construction activities are expected to commence by mid-May 2004 and the facility is to be ready for operations no later than June 2006.