

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

March 29, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: Steven Stokes, Acting Technical Director
FROM: Jonathan Plaue, DNFSB Site Representative
SUBJECT: LLNL Activity Report for Week Ending March 29, 2013

Plutonium Facility: On March 22, 2013, Livermore Field Office (LFO) and laboratory contractor personnel signed the Scope and Key Issues Statement (SKIS) for the 2013 update to the safety basis. The SKIS provides an agreed upon list of content changes and other improvements for the contractor to address in the annual update to the safety basis, which is due to LFO by June 29, 2013. This will be the first revision of the safety basis since completion of the Deinventory project and security downgrade. The SKIS did not include changes to the existing limits for radioactive material-at-risk in the facility, but included the following other notable actions:

- Add a Specific Administrative Control (SAC) to support use of 100 % pure oxygen atmosphere as part of the plutonium hydride-nitride-oxide process
- Remove the scope of work, hazard evaluation, and SAC associated with operations involving metal encapsulated special nuclear material and high explosives
- Replace the Mobile Weapons Platform with a security vehicle in the associated hazard event
- Revise events involving contaminated puncture wounds to workers
- Address comments from the LFO extent of condition review on safety systems
- Evaluate the Limiting Conditions for Operations of the fire suppression system to accommodate the 5 year required inspection of the water tank
- Revise a major component table to reflect the fact that certain metal-enclosed housekeeping filter housings associated with fume hoods in the loft perform a safety class function for confinement

LFO personnel discovered the last item as part of an extent-of-condition review on housekeeping filters performed in response to the Board's letter dated December 11, 2011. LFO personnel currently believe this represents an issue of clarification and that the installed components meet safety class expectations.

Management: Earlier this month, the LFO Manager approved the contractor's Fiscal Year 2013 *Safety Performance Objectives, Measures and Commitments* (SPOMC). The SPOMC fulfills certain contractual requirements under the Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation Clause. SPOMC contents related to the nuclear facilities include the following:

- Development of a Laboratory Nuclear Materials Disposition Plan for nuclear materials, including tritium, that have no defined use
- Dispose of the entire inventory of British tritium containing phone dials stored in the nuclear facilities and repackage 75 drums of transuranic waste
- Safety basis process improvement initiatives, including conduct of a revision to the procedure, conduct of a management self-assessment, and conduct of a Functional Management Review—these were also committed to as part of the response the Board's letter dated August 30, 2012