

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

July 12, 2013

MEMO To: Steven Stokes, Acting Technical Director
FROM: Thomas Spatz, Pantex Site Representative
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Report for Week Ending July 12, 2013

Issue G Weapon Response: This week, Babcock & Wilcox Pantex (B&W) received an Information Engineering Release (IER) from the Design Agencies (DAs) transmitting “high quality draft” weapon response information for ongoing W76 nuclear explosive operations. The DAs have been working to update the weapon response data as part of the *CASTLE (Collaborative Authorization for the Safety-basis Total Lifecycle Environment)/Issue G Weapon Response Project Plan*. (See report for 8/3/1012.) The IER that was released this week is only related to W76 bay operations. The IER does not contain actual weapon response data, which is currently only available on the SNL classified network.

B&W Authorization Basis personnel have entered the high quality draft Issue G weapon responses into their 10 CFR 830 compliant new information process. B&W declared a Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) in the W76 Hazard Analysis Report (HAR) related to the new weapon response information. In the PISA notification, B&W stated the DA provided Issue G draft weapon responses indicate the existing weapon responses used in the HAR are no longer bounding. B&W also stated that the controls in place may not be sufficient to prevent or mitigate the consequences of an accident. B&W has paused W76 mechanical bay operations.

B&W is taking action related to the new weapon responses. B&W tooling personnel are applying electro-static dissipative (ESD) coating on several tools and updating ESD and impact analysis of several tools. B&W Authorization Basis personnel are preparing revisions to the W76 HAR, the Linear Accelerator Safety Analysis Report (SAR), the Vacuum Chamber SAR, the Mass Properties SAR, the Transportation SAR, the Bays and Cells SAR, the Staging SAR, and the Sitewide SAR. B&W Process Engineering personnel are preparing procedure modifications to incorporate tooling number revisions, and process changes related to stand-off distances and new connector cover requirements.

Integrated Program Planning and Execution System (IPRO) Cutover: This week, B&W paused all nuclear operations in order to perform the cutover to the new IPRO system. IPRO was developed as part of the Operations Systems Development and Integration (OSD&I) project to upgrade several antiquated software applications to a PeopleSoft-based software system. B&W production personnel performed an orderly shutdown of operations with the goal of having every weapon and special nuclear material component in a transportable configuration prior to the pause in operations. Due to technical issues, B&W still had units in partially assembled/disassembled configurations at the time of the pause in operations. The units are in a safe and stable configuration; however they require additional work order processing. Work orders for individual units will be in a different format in the new IPRO system, and B&W will need to close out existing work orders on incomplete units and start new work orders for those units. Additionally, B&W has identified several procedures that need to be revised prior to the completion of the cutover to IPRO. B&W is on schedule to perform the cutover on July 22, 2013.