DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

October 11, 2013

TO: S. A. Stokes, Technical Director
FROM: M. T. Sautman and D. L. Burnfield, Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Savannah River Site Weekly Report for Week Ending October 11, 2013

Government Shutdown: SRR did not conduct any processing this week and many operations at SRNS facilities were not performed. Two important issues during a shutdown are compliance with Technical Safety Requirement (TSR) surveillance requirements (SR) and training requirements. SRR personnel have reviewed each of the upcoming SRs to decide how they will be addressed. One factor in these decisions is that the TSRs allow a 25% extension for the stated frequency of SRs for operational flexibility. Twenty-five SRs at DWPF, which have a frequency between 7 and 180 days, and many tank farms SRs will be performed as originally planned. SRR is planning to extend five SRs at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) and one at tank farms; these have frequencies between 1 and 10 years. With regards to TSR administrative programs, SRR will allow five tanks to enter the 30-day grace period for their routine corrosion control waste samples. In addition, SRR will only perform line segment integrity testing for those needed for a transfer; the others will be declared out-of-service. SRR had already deferred several DWPF SRs until an upcoming outage and those will continue to be extended until the outage occurs. In addition, two dozen SRs at DWPF and one at tank farms cannot be performed in the current operations mode. SRR also reviewed the qualifications of their staff supporting minimum safe operations to identify which ones will expire this month. SRR is granting extensions for certain courses (e.g., F-Tank Farm operator qualification), but not others (e.g., radiological worker training). The site rep also observed field operator rounds at H-Tank Farms.

Defense Waste Processing Facility: SRR identified that they had not performed a SR to check and remove water from one of their diesel generator fuel oil tanks since late February although it has a 30-day frequency. An error in their SR schedule database resulted in this activity not being scheduled for several months.

HB-Line and H-Canyon: SRNS declared a Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) when they discovered that legacy equipment (blast gates) could completely isolate three of the four H-Canyon exhaust fans. H-Canyon could not verify either the operability or seismic qualification for the blast gates. SRNS placed appropriate restrictions on the receipt and movement of material and requirements were added to keep fan three running to minimize any potential release.

H-Canyon: H-Canyon personnel drew a sample and placed it in a doorstop (shielded container). They then placed this doorstop in a sealed drum and sealed that drum inside of another drum for shipment to the F/H laboratory. When it arrived at the laboratory, laboratory personnel could not open the inner drum even after repeated attempts. The sample was shipped back to H-Canyon for repackaging and was later returned to the laboratory in a new set of drums. During a post job review, SRNS determined that the drums had not been correctly sealed for the shipment back to H-Canyon. When the laboratory finally opened the drum, they found that it contained free liquids. SRNS later determined this shipment violated the requirements of OSA-G-25 *The Onsite Safety Assessment for Select SRS Packagings.* This is a safety basis violation.

K-Area: SRNS declared a PISA for the K-Area Material Storage (KAMS) when they discovered that the thermal analysis for the storage arrays includes the maximum heat loading for 9975 containers (19 watts), but not for 9977 containers (24 watts). The Celotex packaging in the 9975 containers is limiting for this array since it cannot exceed 250 °F and still perform its safety function. While an SRNS procedure permitted the receipt of 9977 containers, no 9977 containers are currently stored in KAMS. SRNS placed this procedure on administrative hold until they resolve the issue.