

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 9, 2014

MEMO TO: Steven Stokes, Technical Director
FROM: Thomas Spatz, Pantex Site Representative
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Report for Week Ending May 9, 2014

Conduct of Operations: Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Pantex, LLC (B&W) held two event critiques this week for events where material was moved without an appropriate move authorization. In the first event, B&W moved nine Source Nuclear Material items when only eight items were authorized to be moved. (Source Nuclear Material refers to trackable quantities of material such as depleted uranium.) B&W performed a second after-the-fact move in the Integrated Program Planning and Execution System (IPRO) system so that the receiving facility could accept the ninth item. In the second event, at the same time B&W completed moving explosive components, the dispatcher received information that the IPRO system had denied authorization to make the move. The receiving facility could not accept the material and it was returned to the original facility. In both cases, material was moved prior to IPRO authorizing the moves. Neither of these events resulted in a Technical Safety Requirement violation.

B&W controls material moves with the General Use procedure, *Material Movement Authorization*. The procedure gives instructions on planning a move, performing the move, and receiving the material. In both of these events, steps in the procedure were not performed. For example, the procedure specifically states that the planner is to verify the quantity of line items and the quantity of physical material when planning the move. It also states that an independent checker is to verify the same information prior to initiating the move. The first event would not have happened if either of these steps were performed correctly.

As an immediate corrective action, B&W performed a one-hour stand down to hold meetings across the plant to emphasize the importance of adhering to procedures for material moves. B&W is developing a Standing Order to implement immediate corrective actions.

Special Tooling Top-Down Review: The Site Representative observed a meeting of the B&W team developing the special tooling top-down review plan. B&W is performing the top-down review of special tooling in response to direction given by NA-12 in the approval of the nuclear explosive safety master study, Approved Equipment Program, Volume 2, on August 14, 2013. B&W is preparing a cradle-to-grave process map for special tooling. B&W will use the process map and a systems engineering approach to develop the scope of the top-down review.

Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) Update: This week, CNS has completed their facility walkdowns. CNS walked down a total of 197 facilities on-site and three off-site.