

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

October 3, 2014

**MEMO TO:** Steven Stokes, Technical Director  
**FROM:** Thomas Spatz, Pantex Site Representative  
**SUBJECT:** Pantex Plant Report for Week Ending October 3, 2014

**DNFSB Board Member on Site:** Board Member Sean Sullivan was at the Pantex Plant to observe nuclear explosive operations.

**Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) and Positive Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) for Hoisting Operations:** Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) declared a PISA when they received a weapon response for one hoisting operation on one weapon program that was different than the value given in the existing weapon response summary document. As part of the Documented Safety Analysis Improvement Plan (DSAIP), CNS was transferring the weapon specific hoisting scenario from the Sitewide Safety Analysis Report (SAR) to the weapon specific Hazard Analysis Report (HAR). CNS asked the Design Agency for confirmation of the weapon responses. The Design Agency responded with one value of a high-order consequence that differed from that given in the existing weapon response summary document. CNS has upgraded the declared PISA to a positive USQ determination, due to the increase in probability of an accident previously evaluated. CNS sent an Evaluation of the Safety of the Situation (ESS) to the NNSA Production Office (NPO) requesting approval to resume operations with no restriction. The ESS identified the tooling required to meet the functional requirement for the load path. CNS identified that most of these tools are already credited for other hosting scenarios and meet the functional requirement. For the rest of the tools, CNS identified that they are credited for meeting the load path requirement in other documented safety analyses, and will add them to the weapon specific HAR. NPO has not issued the Safety Evaluation Report at the time of this report.

**Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) and Positive Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) for Utility Pole Impact Scenario:** CNS declared a PISA when they discovered that two facilities, not previously identified in the Sitewide SAR, could be impacted by a utility pole falling. One of the facilities was bounded by a previous analysis due to a high mast light failure. CNS has upgraded the declared PISA to a positive USQ determination for the second facility, due to the increase in probability of a malfunction of equipment important to safety. CNS paused all transportation through the corridor in front of the facility. CNS sent an ESS to the NNSA Production Office (NPO) requesting approval to resume operations with no restriction. The ESS states this facility is identical to other facilities in the Sitewide SAR where the functional requirements for the utility pole impact are met, and CNS will add this functional requirement for this facility in the Sitewide SAR. CNS has already submitted the documented safety analysis change package to correct the Sitewide SAR and requested NPO to review and approve the change package.

**Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for Justification for Continued Operations (JCO) for Kneeling Technician:** NPO issued a SER for the remaining JCO associated with the Electro-Static Discharge (ESD) Scenario for the kneeling production technician, with one condition of approval. (See report for 9/26/2014.) NPO's condition of approval is for CNS to make the administrative controls identified in the JCO, specific administrative controls. NPO stated that the JCO will expire in 180 days from the effective date.