

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 12, 2015

TO: S. A. Stokes, Technical Director
FROM: P. Fox and D. Gutowski Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending June 12, 2015

P. Fox was off site this week.

Range Fire. A bird induced an electrical failure in the 200W area adjacent to the Waste Receiving and Processing Facility. In addition to causing a loss of power to many facilities in 200W area, including SY Tank Farm and the 222-S Laboratory, the incident started a range fire. The Hanford Fire Department responded and rapidly contained the fire. Nineteen acres burned before the fire was fully extinguished. The site fire danger category was upgraded to 'very high' soon after the fire due to fuel loading and hot, dry weather conditions.

Tank Farms. The contractor started night shifts for approximately 200 construction force and support workers to avoid heat stress issues. Currently the night work is focused on preparations for A, AX, and AY-102 retrieval and installations needed to complete C Farm retrieval. The site rep observed night work in AX Farm to remove buried transfer piping. The workers hot tapped the encasement and primary lines and measured for flammable gas, which was below action levels. High winds prevented work the following night to continue the job and cut lines. AX Farm is well lit to support nighttime work. ORP is rotating facility representatives and other federal personnel to ensure oversight of these activities.

242-A Evaporator. The contractor completed repairs to the evaporator's feed valve (see Activity Report 5/29/2015) and reinstalled all jumpers. They performed a leak check which identified one leaking connection. Upon tightening that connection, it passed a second leak test. During preparations to resume operations, a 90 pound steam valve was found in the incorrect position. The contractor is investigating this. The evaporator is currently being filled with water to start operations and is expected to receive waste feed this weekend.

Low Activity Waste Pretreatment System (LAWPS). The contractor held a control decision meeting for the advanced conceptual design of LAWPS. They made several changes to the initial set of controls developed to support conceptual design (see Activity Report 6/27/2014), primarily due to the impacts of moving to DOE Order 420.1C with its invocation of DOE Standard 1195 for safety instrumented systems (see Activity Report 1/2/2015).

Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF). The contractor completed the final design report for the WESF Stabilization and Ventilation Project and transmitted it to RL.

Plutonium Finishing Plant. The contractor completed a dry run to prepare for size reduction of glovebox 9B next week.

Central Waste Complex (CWC). A vehicle roll-up door at CWC failed and rapidly descended after workers opened it to support radiological routines. No one was injured. This door had not had preventative maintenance since 2012, as the contractor had reduced maintenance frequency when the pace of work at CWC decreased. However, based on a DOE Operating Experience memo from last year, the contractor had been evaluating increasing maintenance frequencies.