

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

March 25, 2016

**TO:** S. A. Stokes, Technical Director  
**FROM:** P. Fox and D. Gutowski Hanford Site Representatives  
**SUBJECT:** Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending March 25, 2016

Staff member D. Cleaves was on site for training and site representative support.

**Tank Farms.** Last weekend, the contractor again attempted to start solids removal from AY-102 to AP-102. Problems with the raw water skid prevented successful operation. The water skid was repaired during the week and retrieval is now scheduled to start this weekend.

The contractor's Plant Review Committee approved a safety basis amendment that modifies administrative ignition controls at the Tank Farms and Evaporator. The amendment is intended to satisfy a corrective action from a corporate assessment of TSR compliance (see Activity Report 1/10/2014) as well as a concern in a Board letter regarding TSR violation criteria.

An ORP facility representative identified that an operational restriction related to the open Unreviewed Safety Question for pumping down leak detection pits had been closed without ORP approval of the affiliated Extent of the Safety Situation. This is a violation of the contractor's procedures which require operational restrictions remain in place until DOE approval of any proposed resolution. The contractor reinstated the restriction.

**Waste Treatment Plant.** ORP approved the PDSA Change Package that includes Direct Feed Low Activity Waste (LAW) and the Effluent Management Facility (EMF). The change package includes modification to the existing LAW PDSA as well as an appendix describing EMF and transfer lines. ORP included three conditions of approval in the SER.

The site rep observed a meeting of the contractor's Performance Improvement Review Board. The meeting included a review of the results from a contractor sponsored assessment of the preparations for energization of Building 87 and related turnover processes. The evaluation identified several shortcomings in turnover, quality assurance, and lockout/tagout processes.

**Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP).** The site rep walked down PFP facilities. The contractor has staged a large number of removed pipe and ducting sections throughout the facility. This backlog exists because the contractor recently modified their approach for pipe and ducting removal to reduce the number of mechanical cutting activities performed by workers. While this practice improves overall worker safety, it also results in larger sections that cannot be removed using normal egress routes. This week, the contractor installed a new set of doors in the external wall of room 265 on the duct level. The door will allow removal of the staged items.

**Low Activity Waste Pretreatment System (LAWPS).** The contractor's Safety Design Integration Team (SDIT) met to evaluate Natural Phenomena Hazard and External events. The SDIT confirmed hazards associated with these events and refined selection of design criteria and limit states for safety-significant systems. They also met to address development of the Fire Hazards Analysis and impacts of fires on hazardous materials and control systems.