

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

November 16, 2001

TO: J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director

FROM: M. Forsbacka

SUBJ: Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending November 16, 2001

Oak Ridge site representative P. Gubanc continued to attend an off-site training course.

A. Y-12 Dismantlement Preparations: The BWXT readiness assessment (RA) for Phase II Dismantlement Operations was completed on November 9, and the final report was released on November 14. The final report concluded that the core requirements to determine readiness to operate have been met, but there are improvements needed in some areas. Notable among them was the finding that actions taken to correct deficient conditions are not always effective. The staff learned that closure packages for the RA findings will be submitted to the Manager, Manufacturing Division Management Support and will be reviewed by the BWXT RA team leader. The NNSA RA has been rescheduled to commence on December 3, 2001. (2-A)

B. Y-12 Integrated Safety Management System Follow-up Verification: The Integrated Safety Management (ISM) System Follow-up Verification team, led by Mr. Joe King, briefed YAO and BWXT management on the findings of its review. In this third review of ISM at Y-12, the team found that BWXT and YAO have successfully implemented an ISM System. Of note was BWXT's implementation of a program to continually evaluate site-wide ISM mechanisms and the effectiveness of corrective actions. YAO earned praise for strengthening its oversight capabilities through clearly stating its roles and responsibilities (as set forth in the Functions, Responsibilities and Authorities manual), implementing a performance indicator process to measure, track, and trend YAO performance, and conducting a Technical Qualification Program to ensure competency of YAO staff. The team also identified several challenges and opportunities for improvement for the unseasoned ISM System at Y-12. Key among them was the recognition that line managers have repeatedly failed to properly prepare their operations for the readiness review process. YAO and BWXT jointly committed to continuous improvement beyond this important milestone. (1-C)

C. Building 9206 Pyrophoric Material Stabilization Preparations: On Wednesday the Management Self Assessment (MSA) for the Building 9206 pyrophoric material stabilization process commenced. The staff observed a pre-shift job briefing and subsequent glovebox furnace operations on surrogate materials. Under the scrutiny of the MSA team, the operators demonstrated a high degree of familiarity with the procedures and were able to operate equipment in conformance with the procedures as written. The completion date for the MSA is scheduled for November 28, and the BWXT and NNSA Operational Readiness Reviews are planned for December 2001 and January 2002, respectively. (3-B)

cc: Board Members