

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

April 24, 2009

TO: Timothy Dwyer, Technical Director  
FROM: Donald Owen and David Kuperfer, Oak Ridge Site Representatives  
SUBJECT: Activity Report for Week Ending April 24, 2009

**Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility (HEUMF).** B&W efforts continue to document actions taken and assessments of the quality assurance deficiencies for the fasteners used in the safety class storage racks (see the 4/10/09 and 2/27/09 site rep. reports). B&W personnel informed the site reps. that B&W corporate personnel have requested information on the fasteners for review. YSO personnel also informed the site reps. that YSO intends to document an assessment of the technical basis for the installed fasteners being accepted for use.

The site rep. observed a full-scale emergency management exercise that simulated a fork-lift fire in the storage area, the first such exercise for HEUMF. B&W simulated that neither the fire suppression system nor the secondary confinement system functioned (the secondary confinement system was simulated as out-of-service for maintenance). B&W expects to issue a report on the exercise next week.

**Criticality Safety.** In response to the Board's letter of January 23, 2009, YSO and B&W are preparing to brief the Board on efforts to address staff observations on criticality safety evaluations (CSEs) for HEUMF and to evaluate extent-of-condition in CSEs for other Y-12 nuclear facilities. B&W is planning to issue revisions to the HEUMF CSEs during the next several weeks. B&W expects these revisions will be compliant with DOE requirements and standards.

This week, a B&W corporate team conducted a review of the Y-12 nuclear criticality safety program. The review scope included evaluating the capability of the criticality safety department to support the workload for operating facilities and for HEUMF startup.

**New On-site Transfer Vehicle.** Y-12 has been preparing to use a new vehicle (SST-E) to support on-site transfers of nuclear materials from various Y-12 nuclear facilities to HEUMF following startup authorization. Following HEUMF load-out from Y-12 nuclear facilities using the SST-E, B&W intends to use the current transfer vehicle for routine transfers. A new safety basis and corresponding Technical Safety Requirements (TSR) for SST-E on-site transfers have been approved by YSO. B&W and YSO Operational Readiness Reviews for the SST-E are planned in July and August, respectively. This week, B&W started an Implementation Validation Review (IVR) to independently confirm implementation of TSR controls for SST-E on-site transfers. The IVR is to be completed next week.

**Fiscal Year 2009 Funding.** B&W informed YSO that discrepancies between previously forecasted funding targets and those recently authorized for Fiscal Year 2009 could impact Y-12 programs and compel B&W to realign resources. B&W specifically noted that Facility Risk Review maintenance, baseline maintenance of Building 9212, and Oxide Conversion Facility operations could be affected. YSO and B&W efforts are in progress to interface with NNSA Headquarters and minimize such impacts.