

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

MEMO TO: Timothy Dwyer, Technical Director
FROM: Tom Spatz, Pantex Site Representative
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Report for Week Ending August 31, 2012

DBFSB Staff Activity: T. Hunt was at Pantex this week to provide site representative support.

Emergency Response Exercise: This week, B&W Pantex submitted to the NNSA Production Office (NPO) the After Action Report for the natural phenomenon exercise which happened on July 11, 2012. (See weekly for 7/13/12.) The B&W Pantex report states that overall this was a very successful exercise. However, the report states that four of the seven objectives were not met, resulting in four deficiencies. Two of the deficiencies are failures to perform regulatory notifications within the 15 minute time frame required by DOE O 151.1C, *Comprehensive Emergency Management System*. B&W Pantex stated the third communication deficiency resulted in a delayed response of the Fire Departments Emergency Medical Services to the report of injuries. B&W Pantex stated the fourth deficiency as the total lack of communications between the Executive Team and the supporting team rooms throughout the exercise. B&W Pantex identified a fifth deficiency not related to an objective; which was a lack of command and control from the Emergency Operations Center responders throughout the exercise. B&W Pantex also identified the lack of a back-up radio system in the Emergency Dispatch Service Center, as well as two other communication concerns, as opportunities for improvement. Finally, the B&W Pantex report states that the Executive Team properly upgraded the classification of the event when chemical plume data was made available to them.

Safety Culture: This week, Human Performance Analysis (HPA) Corporation presented the results of their independent evaluation of safety culture at the Pantex Plant to NPO and B&W Pantex. The HPA Corporation performed this evaluation for the DOE Office of Health, Safety and Security in response to the Board's Recommendation 2011-1, *Safety Culture at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant*, to perform an extent of condition review within the DOE complex. HPA Corporation has not issued the written report this week.