DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Negative Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) Determination for a Specific Hoisting Operation: Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS) determined the Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) declared last week on two weapon programs resulted in a negative USQ determination. (See report for 12/19/2014.) CNS made the determination based on existing weapon response information. The weapon response summary documents for both programs states that high-order consequences will not occur for drops at heights experienced during this hoisting operation. CNS is revising the Nuclear Explosive Operating Procedure (NEOP) for the program that experienced the dropped Joint Test Assembly trainer to incorporate the use of an existing extractor plate when hoisting the lifting and rotating fixture off the unit. CNS determined that the second program that uses the lifting and rotating fixture in a similar manner has never experienced this hazard; however, CNS is revising the NEOP to ensure that the lifting and rotating fixture is loose from the unit prior to hoisting it off the unit. CNS has resumed this specific hoisting operation on both programs.

Positive Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) Determination for Electro-Static Discharge (ESD) Scenario: CNS and the Design Agencies are reviewing possible process changes to eliminate the ESD hazard that was identified by a Hazard Analysis Task Team (HATT) and confirmed by two Design Agencies through Information Engineering Releases. (See report for 12/19/2014.) The changes under consideration include having the Production Technicians bond during particular steps in the NEOP, or requiring pauses during operations to allow any charge to dissipate before continuing. These changes may preclude the need for new weapon response from the Design Agencies. Operations on this weapon program remain paused.