

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

December 24, 2008

**TO:** T. J. Dwyer, Technical Director  
**FROM:** M. P. Duncan and M. T. Sautman, Site Representatives  
**SUBJECT:** Savannah River Site Weekly Report for Week Ending December 26, 2008

**F Tank Farms:** A System Performance Monitoring Plan developed last April stated that each system engineer would define which system parameters he would monitor and trend and how often he would report these results. A Site Rep review confirmed that monitoring parameters have been identified for each F-Tank Farm Vital Safety System. Depending on the system, Performance Monitoring Reports are being generated on a monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly basis and annual System Health Reports are planned. Currently, the pulse tube agitator system is rated yellow because it may have overwhelmed a pump pit ventilation system during a sludge slurry transfer and caused a release of contamination. The 2F Evaporator is rated red and has only operated at 36% utility since November 2007. The evaporator has experienced problems with maintaining feed and rapid evaporator tube scaling during operation. (5/2/08 report)

**K-Area:** The Site Reps walked down potential locations for a new vault and for storing Fast Flux Test Facility fuel. In addition, the Site Reps walked down K-Area Material Storage to see how the addition of new storage locations may impact future operations. Once these new locations are filled, the Site Reps were told that a forklift driving down one particular aisle would only have approximately 3 inches of clearance on each side. This increases the probability of a collision. The facility is already looking at nearby aisle to see if another row of containers could be added there. (12/12/08 report)

**Defense Waste Processing Facility:** A worker's breathing air hose was partially cut by a heavy door after the worker entered the Crane Maintenance Area. He did not see this happen, but immediately recognized that something was wrong. He exited the area and was quickly cut out of his plastic suit. A hose was severed by the same door in June (6/13/08 report).

**Year in Review Part One:** Waste management and closure projects accomplished the following this year:

- Processed 126,000 gallons of salt waste through the Interim Salt Disposition Project,
- Processed 1,300,000 gallons of salt waste through the Deliquification, Dissolution, and Adjustment process,
- Poured 190+ canisters at the Defense Waste Processing Facility, bringing the total to 2630+,
- Began mechanical waste cleaning of Tank 19 and nearly completed chemical cleaning of Tanks 5 and 6,
- Shipped 2400 drums of transuranic (TRU) waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,
- Remediated 1983 TRU drums and repackaged 108 TRU polyboxes,
- Disposed of 9209 m<sup>3</sup> of low-level waste on-site,
- Completed 75% of the deactivation of P reactor, including the removal of the reactor vessel actuator system, Disassembly Basin sand filters and heat exchangers, and shield doors,
- Completed radiological characterization of R Reactor and installed temporary power and ventilation to allow deactivation to begin, and
- Shipped 4015 depleted uranium oxide drums from R Reactor.