

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

January 2, 2009

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 January 2, 2009

F-Tank Farms: Chemical cleaning of Tank 5 has been completed. While the first acid strike reduced the solids volume by ~700 gallons, the second strike caused an estimated 1800 gallons of oxalate solids to precipitate. Although the last strike reduced the solids volume, the cumulative volume reduction was only 170 gallons. The contractor decided not to make any additional strikes because the strikes were expected to create more solids without dissolving any more of the remaining sludge.

H-Canyon: The contractor approved the Consolidated Hazards Analysis and the Accident Analysis Calculations for the Documented Safety Analysis upgrade.

Fire Department: Underwriters Laboratories-recommended repairs to the ladder truck were completed, but the ladder truck was declared out-of-service until an independent re-inspection can be conducted of the extensive repairs. Unfortunately, the New Ellenton ladder truck was also out-of-service so mutual aid was requested from a fire department around 25-30 miles away from the site boundary until other arrangements were made with the city of Aiken. (12/19/08 report)

Year in Review Part Two: Nuclear Materials Operations and Tritium Programs accomplishments this year included:

- Completed processing non-MOXable plutonium-beryllium and the first part of the enriched uranium materials campaign
- Dispositioned 80 kg of non-MOXable plutonium to a Defense Waste Processing Facility sludge batch
- Completed neptunium processing in HB-Line
- Shipped 255 MT of low-enriched uranium solution to the Tennessee Valley Authority
- Received 1800 containers of plutonium and uranium as part of complex-wide consolidation
- Processed 187 containers of Super-Kukla uranium from Y-12, 6 kg of Los Alamos uranium oxide, and 66 kg of Lawrence Livermore uranium oxide
- Modifications at H-Canyon reduced the amount of high-level waste generated by 8000 gallons a month and allowed shipping 3800 gallons of waste directly to saltstone, bypassing the high-level waste tank farms
- Shipped 5400+ drums of depleted uranium oxide from F-Area to Utah for disposal
- Remediated 1340 transuranic waste drums in F-Canyon
- Completed 37 non-destructive examinations and 19 destructive examinations of 3013 containers
- Received and unloaded 32 nuclear fuel casks, storing 600 spent nuclear fuel assemblies, at L-Basins
- Completed extracting tritium from the third batch of Tritium-Producing Burnable Absorber Rods
- Completed 50 consecutive years of reservoir shipments to the military with no missed shipments
- Shipped the final batch of nitrogen cartridges for the B61-7/11 Life Extension Program and First Production Unit reservoirs for the W76-1 and the W78.