

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

TO: Timothy Dwyer, Technical Director
FROM: Rory Rauch and David Kupferer, Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending July 20, 2012

Site Representative Activity. Rory Rauch began his assignment as one of the Board's site representatives at the Y-12 National Security Complex and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Building 9212. B&W recently issued its annual report of the Continued Safe Operating Oversight Team's (CSOOT's) evaluations and recommendations regarding the adequacy of Building 9212 to support continued reliable and safe operations. This was the fifth annual assessment in response to a Board letter dated March 13, 2007, that highlighted the safety risks associated with continuing to operate Building 9212 (see the 5/13/11 and 4/30/10 reports). The CSOOT did not identify any safety issues or concerns that would currently provide reason for limiting 9212 operations. Some noteworthy observations and recommendations identified by the team include the following:

- B&W line management is effectively implementing Building 9212 Facility Risk Review (FRR) recommended projects through the Nuclear Facility Risk Reduction Project.
- The Building 9212 material-at-risk (MAR) inventory has been significantly reduced and remains ahead of projected MAR inventory reduction targets.
- B&W line management is effectively using the Building 9212 Operations Plan to integrate FRR maintenance funding with base maintenance funding to evaluate, prioritize, and plan Building 9212 maintenance and modification requirements.
- Maintaining the required planning, craft, and engineering resources to support the execution of maintenance has been challenging due to funding limitations.
- Activities associated with replacing the process condensate storage system have not been fully funded during the past few years.
- B&W has initiated a project to deploy a rotary calciner in the production facilities.
- B&W is developing a Building 9212 Transition Plan focused on actions that will reduce hazards in support of a seamless transition for operations shutdown through disposition.
- Procurement of critical spare parts and plans to refurbish the furnace refractory have effectively reduced the need for replacing the Holden Gas Furnace.
- In fiscal year 2012, the CSOOT, with support from the Production and Engineering organizations, should conduct an evaluation of the periodicity and scope of the independent CSOOT assessments.

Transuranic Waste Processing Center (TWPC). Wastren Advantage, Inc. (WAI) is preparing to startup Remote Drum Opener (RDO) operations in the box breakdown area of TWPC's main process building. The purpose of this additional drum puncturing and opening capability is to vent drums that cannot be vented in TWPC's Drum Venting System (see the 10/22/10 report) because they are either too large (e.g., 110-gallon drums) or involve nested configurations of more than two drums. WAI has revised the TWPC Documented Safety Analysis to address RDO operations, which resulted in one new Specific Administrative Control. In addition, WAI developed a new procedure for use in RDO operations. This week, DOE ORO-EM approved WAI's startup notification report, which states that WAI will perform a checklist readiness assessment—which will be shadowed by DOE ORO-EM—prior to startup of RDO operations. WAI is planning to conduct its RA next month.