

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

TO: Steven Stokes, Technical Director  
FROM: William Linzau and Rory Rauch, Site Representatives  
SUBJECT: Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending July 24, 2015

Staff members M. Bradisse, D. Shrestha, S. Sircar, and T. Sweeney were at the Transuranic Waste Processing Center (TWPC) this week to conduct walkdowns in support of the on-going review of the TWPC Documented Safety Analysis and Technical Safety Requirements.

**Conduct of Operations/Work Planning and Control:** The Y-12 Site Manager issued a standing order to address restoration actions after abnormal operational events. NPO and the site reps previously communicated concerns to CNS senior management regarding the lack of effective CNS guidance to govern activities after immediate response actions are complete but before normal operations are resumed (see 2/13/15 report). A key to addressing the concern was defining “a safe, stable, and secure condition,” which the standing order defines as a condition in which engineering or administrative controls are in place to address vulnerabilities resulting from an event. After conditions are safe and stable, the actions of the responsible manager are to be governed by the standing order and include preserving the scene, starting the appropriate investigations, and identifying a process to develop restoration actions by assessing the current conditions and environment. The standing order notes that the responsible manager may need to revise procedures to address new hazards associated with recovering from the abnormal event. The site reps and NPO believe this standing order is a positive first step in addressing this concern.

**NPO Oversight:** NPO issued its latest Quarterly Issues Management Meeting (QIMM) report. The cover letter to the report focuses on two areas in which NPO believes CNS can make further improvements. The first focus area is associated with the CNS initiative to merge and integrate processes between Y-12 and Pantex. NPO believes that merger and transformation efforts have not gained sufficient momentum and that there are benefits in taking the best practices and methods from each site to raise the performance of the whole enterprise. The second focus area provides NPO’s comments on the CNS initiative to attain performance excellence.

**Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL):** In June, URS/CH2M Oak Ridge (UCOR), the contractor for the Melton Valley Closure Project, was conducting a dry run using a forklift truck to transfer an empty Removable Lid Canister (RLC) Overpack (ROP) from Transuranic Waste Processing Center (TWPC) to UCOR’s storage facilities. During the test of the forklift’s ability to conduct an emergency stop, the tine pocket of the safety significant ROP experienced minor bending of the upper lip when the ROP rocked toward the cab of the forklift. To prevent the rocking during the initial transfers of loaded ROPs, UCOR installed wooden cribbing on the forklift truck. Last week, UCOR engineers presented OREM alternatives for a more permanent solution to address the rocking problem. UCOR evaluated several alternatives and the most viable solution was a plate mounted hard rubber bumper that would bolt to the front of the forklift and prevent the ROP from rocking. UCOR engineers also suggested that the wooden cribbing could be used permanently, but OREM asked for a cost estimate to fabricate and install the bumper plate assemblies. In addition, OREM asked UCOR to create a set of inspection criteria for the wooden cribbing that will be used during pre-use inspections of the cribbing assembly prior to ROP transfers.