

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

January 9, 2026

TO: Technical Director
FROM: Oak Ridge Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending January 9, 2026

Staff Activity: Members of the Board's staff traveled to Y-12 as part of a review to evaluate the fire protection aspects of the extended life program. CNS established the extended life program as a systematic approach to manage the aging of Y-12 production facilities. The Board's staff conducted walkdowns of Building 9204-2E and the 9215 complex to assess fire protection systems in the buildings. The Board's staff, CNS, and YFO had follow-on discussions of various aspects of the fire protection program in those facilities and the extent to which CNS is utilizing the extended life program to bring the facilities up to modern code.

Waste Packaging: A resident inspector (RI) observed disassembly of two types of canned sub-assemblies this week. For the disassembly process, CNS has identified specific materials that are recycled for later use and other material types that are waste of different categorizations. After the unit is completely disassembled, bags of the waste and reuse material are also visually verified to be placed into the correct container by the waste package certifier. Due to problems CNS encountered in the past with waste disposition and proper categorization, waste package certifiers are present whenever drums are loaded with waste. This allows them to ensure hazardous material types are segregated appropriately and properly labeled on outgoing containers. Once the containers are loaded and contents verified by the waste package certifier, the operators install a tamper-indicating device on the closure of the drum or container. The RI reviewed the labeling process for the containers and drums, including the production follow sheets, and the waste package certifier's bar-coded container log and checklist. Based on the RI's observations, this multi-layered approach to waste packaging minimizes the chance for errors in the waste disposition process prior to containers being shipped offsite.

Highly Enriched Uranium Material Facility (HEUMF): On 10/22/2025, CNS entered a planned limiting condition for operation (LCO) in support of performing a scheduled monthly functional test of the safety significant power distribution (PDSS) diesel generator (DG). While performing the surveillance, the PDSS DG unexpectedly shut down after 25 minutes of a required 30-minute runtime. CNS declared the PDSS DG inoperable because of the failed surveillance and remained in the LCO. CNS had to restore the system to operable status within 92 days as required by the LCO. Multiple repair part sourcing issues resulted in repeated delays of the equipment repair. This week, CNS completed the repair of the PDSS DG, thereby resolving the equipment issue. CNS utilized the LCO surveillance as the post-maintenance testing to determine if the system was operable. An RI and YFO facility representative observed CNS completing the repair and subsequent post maintenance testing of the system. The system functioned as designed during the surveillance and CNS declared the system operable, exiting the LCO 78 days after the issue occurred.