DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: B. Caleca and P. Fox, Hanford Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending February 15, 2019

Hanford Site: Adverse weather continued to affect the Hanford site (see 2/8/2019 report). Sequential storm systems deposited snow and ice in the region and created unsafe transit conditions for the work force. Consequently, for much of the week, DOE limited staffing at the site facilities and DOE offices to only those personnel essential for maintaining safe conditions. All swing and mid-night shifts were cancelled between the evening of February 8 and morning of February 15. Dayshift activities were limited to approximately 3 half shifts during the week. Conditions were so severe over the weekend of February 9 and 10th that the normal shift cycles were interrupted, resulting in one shift complement at the tank farms (as well as security and fire department staff) remaining on site for a period of nearly 36 hours before being relieved. The personnel that were on site established a sleep/work routine to sustain safe operations.

DOE issued the Final Request for Proposals (FRPs) for the Tank Closure Contract (TCC) and the Central Plateau Cleanup Contract (CPCC). The new TCC replaces the Tank Operations Contract, which expires on September 30, 2019 and is currently held by Washington River Protection Solutions, LLC. DOE indicated that the contract will cover a 10 year period and is expected to be a hybrid Indefinite-Delivery/Indefinite-Quantity contract which allows DOE to issue either Firm-Fixed-Price and/or Cost Reimbursement task orders. The contract does not include 222-S laboratory management, operations, and maintenance functions which DOE is transferring to a contract that covers laboratory services as well as those support functions. The CPCC contract replaces the Plateau Remediation Contract which also expires on September 30 and is currently held by CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Company. The RFP indicates that that the CPCC will also cover 10 years and that DOE expects that it will have the same hybrid construct as the TCC contract. DOE is currently evaluating proposals associated with the third large site contract, which covers site services currently provided by Mission Support Alliance.

Richland Operations Office (RL): Douglas Shoop, the RL manager since July 2016, retired. DOE announced that Brian Vance, the Office of River Protection (ORP) manager will also be detailed to serve as the RL manager. The announcement indicated that Mr. Vance will provide executive level technical expertise, direction, and guidance to both offices. Deputy Managers Joe Franco (RL) and Ben Harp (ORP) will provide day-to-day leadership and administration for their offices. The announcement indicates that this arrangement will ensure coordination necessary to bring direct feed low-activity waste capability on-line while ensuring that RL and ORP remain two site offices with distinct scopes and capabilities within their cleanup portfolios.

Tank Farms: Tank Farms Operations conservatively entered into LCO 3.11, DST Annulus Flammable Gas Control, of the Tank Farms Technical Safety Requirements when a high annulus level alarm for AP-103 activated. Follow-up investigation determined that the alarm was due to equipment malfunction and did not result from an actual high annulus level. A different equipment malfunction also resulted in a sudden increase in AZ-102 level indication. The equipment malfunction was resolved and the level indication returned to its previous reading.