

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 17, 2019

**TO:** Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director  
**FROM:** M. T. Sautman and Z. C. McCabe, Resident Inspectors  
**SUBJECT:** Savannah River Site Activity Report for Week Ending May 17, 2019

**235-F:** Workers installed a vacuum with a 20' hose inside the maintenance wing cabinet. They used the vacuum to remove plutonium oxide and other debris from this cabinet as well as cell 2. Earlier this year, the resident inspector (RI) noted that emergency drill scenarios for several years focused on runaway trucks and compressed gas cylinder missiles, which did not reflect that workers were now performing remediation inside the facility. With encouragement from DOE, SRNS scrapped the initially planned annual F-Area evaluated exercise scenario and instead wrote a new scenario involving a seismic event that occurs while workers are performing remediation. This results in cracks in the walls and plenum, a fire in the generator building, a loss of power, and a loss of ventilation. The RIs had also noted that past SRS drills had not addressed the need to evacuate a nuclear facility due to a seismic event. This scenario was intended as the first step in addressing building evacuations due to seismic events and included the evacuation of remediation workers from a high-contamination area, a contamination area, and the command center (although workers were pre-staged to avoid potentially transferring any real contamination). The RIs observed the emergency response in the field and control room. In general, the response was satisfactory.

**Salt Waste Processing Facility:** The RI reviewed the Implementation Verification Review Plan and provided Parsons comments on the planned performance demonstrations and positions to be interviewed. Based on the RI's comments and other feedback Parsons replied that the performance demonstrations will now include limiting conditions for operation (LCO) entry/exit, LCO required action tracking, operability determination, and specific administrative control implementation. Interviews will also include control room managers and operators as well as shift technical and other engineers.

**Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL).** SRNL personnel have completed all field work associated with the effectiveness review of the corrective action plan that followed the April 2018 pause (see 5/18/18 report). SRNL personnel issued a status report of the effectiveness review with grades for each of the corrective actions and findings. However, SRNL personnel are now planning to add additional scope including the core and key issues identified by the Independent Evaluation Board in January and the results of the common cause analysis of the most recent 20 events that resulted in a fact finding or issue review. SRNL personnel plan to revise the effectiveness review report and issue a final version this summer.

**H-Canyon:** H-Canyon personnel are evaluating a self-identified safety concern regarding the technique used to perform maintenance on the New Warm Crane, which is elevated work performed in air-supplied plastic suits without fall protection. The two catwalks have railing but the crane cab connecting the two does not. Additionally, mechanics will reach between the railings to lubricate crane wheels approximately three feet from the edge of the catwalk. H-Canyon personnel believe the method they have used to perform this work is adequate; however, they have committed to reassess that conclusion via a team Assisted Hazards Analysis.