

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 7, 2019

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: Zachery S. Beauvais and Miranda McCoy, Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Activity Report for Week Ending June 7, 2019

DNFSB Staff Activity: The resident inspectors participated in a staff review of the technical basis supporting the W88 weapon response at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. They were offsite through the majority of the week.

Special Tooling: After CNS engineers identified that the weight of a general-use cart used on multiple weapon programs exceeded the weight analyzed in the documented safety analysis last month, they implemented a variety of operational restrictions to ensure that fielded tooling met the weight distributions assumed in the documented safety analysis (see 5/3/19, 5/17/19 and 5/24/19 reports). These actions included a tooling modification that necessitated a new tooling specification number to be established. This week, NPO personnel identified that previously implemented operational restrictions for this hazard did not fully align with technical safety requirements stipulated in the documented safety analysis due to the modified tooling specification number. CNS management determined that this discrepancy violated the approved technical safety requirements. CNS management has administratively restricted use of the modified tool on the impacted weapon program until an NPO-approved justification for continued operation can be implemented.

Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Hazards: CNS safety analysis engineering declared a potential inadequacy of the safety analysis (PISA) following the identification of discrepancies in the ESD hazard characterization for one weapon program. While CNS engineering discovered various discrepancies, only those related to radiography operations required additional controls. CNS engineers specified a suite of operational restrictions to address these discrepancies. The operational restrictions include new conductivity requirements for an adapter fixture (a piece of special tooling) and a requirement for production technician bonding while installing the adapter fixture into an enhanced transportation cart during radiography operations.