

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 21, 2024

**TO:** Timothy J. Dwyer, Technical Director  
**FROM:** Frank Harshman and Clinton Jones, Resident Inspectors  
**SUBJECT:** Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending June 21, 2024

**Building 9212:** Recently, a resident inspector (RI) observed that a worker had not applied his personal lock to a Lock Out/Tag Out (LOTO) while performing maintenance on a wet pipe system pressure switch (See 6/7/2024 report). After the RI notified the supervisor, the supervisor applied the lock on behalf of the worker. This is contrary to the requirements of the procedure. Since then, CNS has conducted a formal investigation, a critique, and is developing a formal lesson learned. As part of one of their corrective actions, CNS is retraining the group involved on the following: 1) the requirement that only an individual can apply their own lock to a LOTO, 2) the expectation of verbatim compliance of work steps, and 3) the requirement for place keeping in work packages. CNS filed a report in the occurrence reporting and processing system for a failure to follow a prescribed hazardous energy control process and will perform a causal analysis to ascertain the underlining causal factors to prevent recurrence.

**Site Water Supply:** The city of Oak Ridge supplies water to two water towers through a 16-inch diameter feed line. These water towers then supply both potable water and fire water systems across the site. On Thursday morning, a break in this feed line caused a loss of city water supply to one of the two water towers. The other tower is currently drained and out of service due to an unrelated maintenance activity. CNS was able to align an alternate input path for the city of Oak Ridge water supply to the functional water tower. This restored water to the site. Operations management verified water pressures in multiple facilities with both safety significant and safety class fire suppression systems and did not see any pressure drops that would call into question the operability of the systems on site. CNS is working with the city of Oak Ridge to repair the damaged piping.

**Building 9212:** Workers were re-containerizing legacy generic metal cans when they noticed that the top of one of the inner containers was bulging, indicating that it was under pressure. This inner container had been packaged off site decades ago and resembles a tall tuna can with a pull tab. Workers established an administrative boundary, informed the nuclear criticality safety engineer (NCSE), and entered the bulging container abnormal operating procedure (AOP). CNS determined that the bulging container AOP could not be utilized to disposition the container as it was written to only address bulging shipping containers. CNS is developing a procedure to safely disposition the inner container via controlled venting within a ventilated hood. An RI walked the area down and found it to be in a safe and stable condition. The RI also discussed the path forward with building personnel. Their plans seemed reasonable given the nature of the issue, planned methods to be utilized, and the configuration of the location.