

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 21, 2007

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** J. K. Fortenberry, Technical Director  
**FROM:** M. J. Merritt, DNFSB Site Representative  
**SUBJECT:** Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)  
Report for Week Ending September 21, 2007

**DNFSB Site Representative Activity/Departure:** The Site Representative was at the University of Florida this week participating in on-campus recruiting. This is my last weekly report as a DNFSB Site Representative. On October 1, 2007, I will leave federal service and join the private sector. It has been a privilege to serve the Board for the past three years at LLNL and at headquarters from 1992-2004.

**Plutonium Facility Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) Implementation:** LLNL is nearing full implementation of the Plutonium Facility DSA and Technical Safety Requirements (TSRs). Full implementation has been accelerated to support contract transition. The target completion date is now September 30, 2007 (formerly November 15, 2007). Implementation of the new DSA and TSRs represents a significant improvement in safety compared to the previous safety analysis report and controls.

**LLNL Management Contract Transition:** On October 1, 2007, Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) – a team consisting of Bechtel National, University of California (UC), BWX Technologies, Washington Group International, and Battelle – will begin directing LLNL operations. On that date, the current laboratory director will assume the duties of the president of LLNS and will lead the incoming team under the new contract. The new contract will contain nuclear and radiological safety-related directives and standards that are not contained in the current contract (e.g., *DOE-STD-1098-1999, Radiological Control*). The implementation of the new contract should raise the level of performance and the safety posture of the nuclear facilities at LLNL. The implementation schedule for attaining compliance with the newly required directives is being negotiated between LLNS and the Livermore Site Office (LSO).

Contract transition activities are nearly complete for LLNL, LLNS, and LSO. Facility walk-down inspections, reviews of existing safety procedures, and work force transition activities are complete. As part of the new organization, an Associate Director for Nuclear Operations position has been created in the LLNS organization that does not presently exist under the UC structure. The creation of this position is likely to strengthen the management and implementation of nuclear safety requirements. However, the principle details of the relationship between nuclear facility operations and national defense programs has been defined at a high level only. The day-to-day interactions will need to be worked out as the contract takes effect.