

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

August 26, 2005

**TO:** J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director  
**FROM:** R. Todd Davis/Donald Owen, Oak Ridge Site Representatives  
**SUBJECT:** Activity Report for Week Ending August 26, 2005

Mr. Owen was out of the office this week. Staff Technical Director Kent Fortenberry was at Oak Ridge this week and toured several defense nuclear facilities at Y-12.

A. Oxide Conversion Facility. As a part of the startup testing for the Oxide Conversion Facility (OCF), BWXT introduced Hydrogen Fluoride (HF) to the vaporizer in late-June. However, equipment related problems were identified that caused BWXT to suspend the test procedure (see site rep weeklies dated 7/1/05 and 7/8/05). Although the specific equipment problems were resolved, YSO had raised a configuration management concern based on equipment installation that was not consistent with facility drawings (i.e., a flow instrument was not correctly grounded). To resolve this concern, BWXT recently completed walkdowns of safety related instruments to confirm appropriate installation. During these walkdowns, facility personnel identified an additional five instruments that were not correctly grounded. These instruments have now been correctly grounded. In addition, BWXT identified several cases where the facility drawings were not correct (e.g., indication of a normally closed contact versus normally open contact). BWXT plans to correct these drawings.

BWXT has also resolved concerns identified with the pressure testing of the system piping that connects to the HF cylinders (see site rep. weekly dated 7/22/05). HF system testing is scheduled to resume early next week. System testing with uranium will begin after HF testing is complete.

B. Building 9212 B-1 Wing Fire Protection System. BWXT is nearing the completion of the installation of a sprinkler system on the first floor of B-1 wing in Building 9212 (see site rep. weekly dated 6/24/05). During a walkdown of this system, the site rep. noted that the support clamps for this system were not consistent with those used for the OCF sprinkler system. The clamps used for the B-1 wing system do not include a strap that would provide lateral support during a seismic event. This concern has been discussed with YSO and BWXT management.

C. Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility. The BWXT construction contractor continues concrete placements for both the mechanical equipment building and the main storage building. Concrete placements for a portion of the main storage building foundation slab as well as several wall placements for the mechanical equipment building have now been completed.

D. Disposition of Chemical Traps. BWXT is planning to process 153 chemical traps used in the uranium enrichment process that have been stored for more than 15 years in a Y-12 facility currently undergoing deactivation (see site rep. weekly dated 4/22/05). BWXT has proposed that the startup of this operation be handled as a "Standard Operations Startup" (i.e., no independent readiness review is planned). Last week, a joint YSO/BWXT management team met to discuss the readiness plans for this operation and YSO concurred with the BWXT plan for readiness review. This activity is scheduled to begin in September.