

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

March 8, 2002

**TO:** J. K. Fortenberry, Technical Director  
**FROM:** D. F. Owen, RFETS Site Representative  
**SUBJECT:** RFETS Activity Report for the Week Ending March 8, 2002

**Plutonium Stabilization and Packaging System (PuSPS).** RFETS has completed approximately 470 DOE-STD-3013 containers (not counting those in a reject/rework status). RFETS has been consistently completing about 30 DOE-STD-3013 containers (or more) per week for the past several weeks. As noted in the site rep. report of January 4<sup>th</sup>, DOE-RFFO had informed the DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM) that the May 2002 milestone for repackaging metal and oxides in DOE's Implementation Plan for Recommendation 94-1 would be missed. DOE-RFFO had projected completion by October 2002 assuming an increase in throughput in PuSPS and assuming packaging of certain lower purity oxides as residues. The latter assumption has been under review. DOE-RFFO is assessing the schedule impacts to the metal/oxide repackaging effort and intends that the results be provided to the Board. (3-A)

**Recommendation 2000-2.** As reported for the past two weeks, DOE-RFFO was conducting detailed (Phase II) assessments of the confinement ventilation and fire protection systems in Building 371. The Phase II assessment team is still determining findings and recommendations and now expects to brief the results to RFETS management during the week of March 11<sup>th</sup>. (1-C)

**Recommendation 95-2.** As noted in the Board's letter of November 8, 2001, DOE-RFFO had performed a rigorous annual Integrated Safety Management (ISM) update review in early 2001 in accordance with DOE G 450.4-1A, *Integrated Safety Management Guide*. The Board noted that the ISM update review identified many issues and lessons learned that will help improve the site's ISM System. As reported on February 1<sup>st</sup>, slow progress was being made in addressing two issues raised by the ISM update review including the need for mentoring of work planning personnel (those who develop hazard analysis, safety controls and work procedures) and the need to enhance DOE-RFFO's oversight of work planning at RFETS. DOE-RFFO continues to develop actions to address these issues.

DOE-RFFO had been planning to perform the next annual ISM update review later this month. Last week, the site rep. inquired about the status of resolution of all the issues from last year's review. This week, DOE-RFFO management indicated to the site rep. that there was a lack of confidence, in general, that the actions taken to date adequately resolve the issues from last year's ISM update review. As a result, DOE-RFFO management has decided to delay the next annual ISM update review until May. DOE-RFFO management indicated to the site rep. that DOE-RFFO and Kaiser-Hill will assess the resolution of the issues from last year's review and address any deficiencies during the next several weeks. (1-C)

**Public Interaction.** The site rep. presented an update on Board activities to the RFETS Citizens Advisory Board. The site rep. discussed metal/oxide repackaging in PuSPS, actions to improve ISM at RFETS, and actions under Recommendation 2000-2.