

## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 21, 2001

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** J. Kent Fortenberry, Technical Director  
**FROM:** R. T. Davis/ T. D. Burns  
**SUBJECT:** SRS Report for Week Ending September 21, 2001

**Site Status:** The site remains in a heightened state of security awareness; however, SRS facilities are operating.

**High Efficiency Particulate (HEPA) Air Filters:** Last November, WSRC revised the HEPA filter procurement specification to delete requirements to pre-test filters at the Oak Ridge Filter Test Facility (site rep weekly 11/3/00). The WSRC basis for this change was that the testing at Oak Ridge is redundant with testing done by the vendor. In a June 4, 2001 letter, the Secretary of Energy identified HEPA filter test requirements that would immediately be implemented across the complex based on the recommendations of an EM working group. These test requirements included 100 percent quality assurance testing at the Filter Test Facility for new HEPA filters that are important to safety (as defined in the June letter). This week, DOE-SR has taken action to direct WSRC to implement HEPA filter testing that will include pre-testing at the Oak Ridge Filter Test Facility. In parallel, it appears that DOE-SR will pursue an exemption from these test requirements based on testing performed by the vendor.

**HB-Line Phase II:** The WSRC Management Self-Assessment (MSA) for the startup of HB-Line Phase II began reviewing facility activities and operations in early August (site rep weekly 8/10/01). During the MSA review, issues were identified with procedure adequacy, operator execution of procedures and disciplined operations. Based on these issues, procedures were revised and operator training was conducted to ensure procedure adequacy and operator proficiency. Senior management observation and coaching was also provided to help ensure appropriate conduct of operations. This week, the MSA team returned to observe facility evolutions and verify that these corrective actions have been effective. The MSA team is expected to complete their review and issue a report by early next week. The contractor Operational Readiness Review (ORR) will start after completion of the MSA. Startup of this facility is expected in late-November. WSRC has resolved many of the issues identified in the Board letter dated July 20, 2001. The staff continues to work with DOE-SR and WSRC to resolve the remaining open issues.

**2H Evaporator:** This week, WSRC completed the contractor ORR for restart of the 2H evaporator. The ORR team identified several findings including problems with procedures (both operating procedures and alarm response procedures) and the Authorization Commitment Matrix mapping of Authorization Basis commitments to procedures. In addition, the team identified weaknesses with three Job Hazard Analyses, operator knowledge and disciplined operations. Corrective actions have been identified for all findings and WSRC is currently implementing pre-start corrective actions. The DOE ORR is expected to start next week.