

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

August 1, 1997

TO: G.W. Cunningham, Technical Director

FROM: P.F. Gubanc & D.G. Ogg, Hanford Site Representatives

SUBJ: Activity Report for Week Ending August 1, 1997

Mr. Gubanc was on leave Thursday and Friday.

A. Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) Activities: On July 28, The President of Babcock and Wilcox Hanford Co. (BWHC) issued a letter announcing that Fred Crawford would replace Eric Vogt as the Director of PFP effective Aug. 1. Mr Vogt will be assigned as a technical advisor to the President of BWHC. On Aug. 1, DOE-RL is expected to issue its readiness assessment (RA) report documenting the findings that led the RA team to conclude that PFP was not ready to resume fissile material handling. The site representatives will review the RA report, and a copy will be forwarded to DNFSB HQ. With the issuance of this report, the site representatives expect that BWHC and Fluor Daniel Hanford (FDH) can now assemble a comprehensive plan of action that will address root causes common to the PRF accident investigation report, the emergency response evaluation report and the readiness assessment report.

B. Canister Storage Building (CSB) Construction: On July 31, an incident occurred at the CSB when workers using a man-lift inadvertently snagged the man-lift on a steel girder. In an attempt to free the man-lift, two of the four man-lift wheels lifted off the ground and the steel girder was bent. The workers were rescued from the man-lift basket and no one was injured. Subsequently, Duke Engineering Services Hanford (DESH) rescinded their recommendation to FDH that Mowat Construction Co. be retained as the CSB constructor pending further investigation. On Aug. 1, Mr. Ogg toured the CSB construction site with the Assistant Manager for Waste Management, members of his staff, and representatives from Mowat and Fluor Daniel Northwest.

C. TWRS Program Logic: When Lockheed-Martin Hanford Co. (LMHC) assumed responsibility for TWRS, they recognized the lack of an overarching, integrated approach to TWRS activities. Since last fall, LMHC has been developing a "program logic" which identifies the technical and programmatic linkages between major TWRS activities. While additional detail is still being developed, the program logic has matured to the point that DOE-RL and LMHC have agreed to use the program logic as the basis for FY98 and beyond TWRS fiscal planning. Mr. Gubanc's reviews of the logic show it to be a sound tool, however, we have not yet done a comparison with the DNFSB commitments to see which are, or are not, included in the logic.

cc: Board Members