

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 27, 2024

TO: Timothy J. Dwyer, Technical Director
FROM: L. Lin, Z.C. McCabe, and E.P. Richardson, Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Savannah River Site Activity Report for Week Ending September 27, 2024

Severe Weather: SRS personnel declared an Operational Emergency at 0538 Friday, September 27, 2024, due to Hurricane Helene. The impacts were significant, including numerous downed trees and power lines limiting through traffic. Roads and grounds personnel took action to clear roadways while emergency services kept control rooms informed of the evolving situation. The limited access delayed shift relief to all facilities until major site roadways could be opened. Several facilities also lost normal power and switched over to standby or emergency generators until normal power could be restored. As of Friday, all nuclear facilities had normal power restored except for H-Canyon, where site personnel expected power to be restored over the weekend.

Site Transition: NNSA-SRFO and DOE-SR are in the process of finalizing the transition of site landlord responsibilities to NNSA-SRFO. The official transfer of responsibilities will occur next week on October 1. This will include the transfer of ownership of the K-Area Complex and associated missions, the site services support mission, and approximately 85 federal employees, including several in DOE-SR's Office of Safety and Quality Assurance.

Non-Conformance Reports: The resident inspectors reviewed the site programmatic requirements associated with the control and disposition of nonconforming items against the requirements in DOE Order 414.1, *Quality Assurance*, and ASME NQA-1, *Quality Assurance Requirements for Nuclear Facility Applications*. Additionally, the resident inspectors reviewed a sampling of non-conformance reports on safety significant or safety class items from the Savannah River National Laboratory, Tank Farms, and the Defense Waste Processing Facility. For the most part, the non-conformance reports seem to contain adequate technical justification for the disposition (i.e., use-as-is, rework, repair, or reject), though there are several that have been open for an extended period of time (e.g., greater than 180 days).

Liquid Waste: Following a series of recent work planning and control issues (see 9/20/2024 report), SRMC has put together a team to look at hazards analysis and control implementation across the liquid waste organization. They will review a sample of work packages from both the maintenance and construction organizations in Tank Farms, Defense Waste Processing Facility, Salt Waste Processing Facility, Saltstone, and the Effluent Treatment Facility. In addition to reviewing the hazard analyses and technical work documents for clear scope and adequacy in identifying and implementing hazard controls, they will hold discussions with work planners, subject matter experts, supervisors, and workers to determine if work planning walkdowns are being conducted, if workers have the opportunity to provide input during the planning process, and if team reviews are being conducted, and if hazards and controls are discussed at pre-job briefings.