

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

December 6, 2024

TO: Timothy J. Dwyer, Technical Director
FROM: B. Caleca, P. Fox, and P. Meyer, Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending December 6, 2024

Low-Activity Waste (LAW) Facility: BNI completed actions necessary to resolve prestart findings and submitted their corrective action plan for post start findings from their Cold Commissioning Management Assessment of LAW Facility (see 11/1/2024 and 11/8/2024 reports). They also confirmed that the safety authorization basis is fully defined, environmental permit requirements are implemented, and all necessary construction scope is complete. Consequently, BNI management declared their readiness to receive ammonia and initiate cold commissioning testing with waste simulant. The startup authorization authority subsequently approved the introduction of ammonia and nitrate feed to support cold commissioning.

Tank Farms: WRPS concluded tank side cesium removal (TSCR) campaign 1A by completing batch 4 of the campaign (see 11/8/2024 report). Batch 4 successfully pretreatment 194,598 gallons of tank waste supernatant. Double-shell tank (DST) AP-106, the LAW Facility feed tank, now contains approximately 832,000 gallons of pre-processed tank waste to support LAW Facility startup. WRPS is sampling to confirm that the AP-106 waste complies with feed requirements. Tank Farm personnel subsequently placed the TSCR system in maintenance mode to support replacement of expended ion-exchange columns and transferred additional supernatant waste from DST AP-104 to DST AP-107. Both activities support future TSCR operations.

West Area Risk Management (WARM): An independent review team completed their review of WARM project work to complete alternative selection for an SY Tank Farm tank waste supernatant pretreatment project. The review team determined that the project team had adequately considered safety in the design and had established appropriate quality assurance and integrated safety management plans. The project will apply for approval of the critical decision 1 milestone once they have addressed the review team's findings.

242-A Evaporator: A contractor readiness assessment (CRA) team and DOE observers began their field observations and interviews of plant personnel, coinciding with operators running the facility with water. The contractor has made significant efforts to improve facility and operator performance following the suspension of the DOE readiness assessment in July (see 7/12/2024 and 8/2/2024 reports).

Solid Waste Operations Complex (SWOC): HFO previously directed CPCCo to remove recovery plans from the SWOC technical safety requirements (TSRs). This week, the SWOC Plant Review Committee (PRC) met to consider resulting changes to the TSR document. Recovery plan actions were removed from 13 limiting conditions for operations (LCOs) and the recovery plan action completion time was added to each previous LCO action. For the LCO related to out-of-service fire protection systems, the completion time was extended to 88 days to accommodate longer times for system repair or replacement, and a new control prohibiting liquid fuel in the building was added. The PRC voted to recommend approval of the proposed changes.