

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 12, 2020

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: Matthew Duncan and Brandon Weathers, Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Oak Ridge Activity Report for Week Ending June 12, 2020

DNFSB Staff Activity: DNFSB staff had a teleconference with CNS and NPO personnel to discuss additional questions for a review of out-of-service systems and components in Building 9212 that do not meet the current requirements of the nuclear criticality safety program (see 10/25/19 and 1/31/20 reports).

Nuclear Criticality Safety: Last week, CNS successfully added solvent to two-cylinder chip dollies that had been stored in Building 9212 for an extended amount of time (see 4/10/20 report). CNS nuclear criticality safety engineers evaluated this activity and identified three new administrative controls. These controls specify the type of solvent allowed and that the solvent can only be poured from non-fissile containers. CNS needed to perform this activity prior to processing the uranium chips through the ultrasonic chip cleaning process. The readiness review of the ultrasonic chip cleaning process is scheduled to begin next week (see 5/15/20 report). NPO will be conducting a checklist federal readiness assessment concurrently with the CNS readiness assessment.

The resident inspectors discussed a similar condition of extended storage of loaded two-cylinder chip dollies in Building 9215 with CNS in April. CNS is evaluating the condition in Building 9215 to determine whether any of the dollies need to be checked and have solvent added, if needed.

Transuranic Waste Processing Center: North Wind Solutions (North Wind) personnel completed the implementation verification review (IVR) for overpacking containers that were subject to a work suspension order prohibiting their movement (see 6/5/20 report). The review team began the IVR in late March and paused it shortly after it started to resolve two issues that were identified. Soon afterwards, the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management issued a partial stop work order to all contractors in response to the COVID-19 situation (see 4/3/20 report). The review team completed the IVR on Monday and reported no pre-start or post-start findings. North Wind began overpacking the containers on Wednesday. Once overpacked, personnel can move the containers that were subject to the work suspension order. Due to the storage locations of the affected containers, personnel could not retrieve other containers stored behind them that were not subject to the work suspension order.

Federal Oversight: Facility representatives perform nuclear safety oversight and are responsible for monitoring the safety performance of defense nuclear facilities as well as their day-to-day operational status. This week, an NPO facility representative successfully completed all the requirements to become qualified per DOE Order 426.1B, *Federal Technical Capability Program*. NPO has now filled all ten of its facility representative positions with qualified personnel.