

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

June 19, 2020

TO: Christopher J. Roscetti, Technical Director
FROM: B. Caleca and P. Fox, Hanford Resident Inspectors
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending June 19, 2020

Central Waste Complex (CWC): Contractor personnel declared a Potential Inadequacy of the Safety Analysis (PISA) specific to the use of median vice mean material-at-risk values for drum accidents in the facility's safety basis as identified in a DOE-RL assessment. The decision to declare a PISA followed discussions with DOE-RL after the initial contractor screening of the assessment's findings was ended without declaring a PISA (see 5/29/2020 report).

Tank Farms: In May, while performing routine maintenance, the Tank Farms Operations Contractor (TOC) determined that the main breaker for the normal power supply to the AW Farm tank exhausters required replacement. Since then, the in-service exhauster has been running on alternate power, but tank farm safety programmable system instruments and communication devices associated with the primary tank ventilation systems could not be powered and are off line. This condition required the contractor to enter a technical safety requirement (TSR) limited condition for operation (LCO). Because of the extended period of time necessary to receive and install a new breaker, the contractor submitted a recovery plan per the TSR LCO. ORP has approved the recovery plan and the related compensatory measures.

Hanford Site: DOE and contractor management continue to follow federal and state guidance to reduce the transmission of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (see 6/5/2020 report). RL, ORP, PNSO, and all contractors remain in the first phase of their resumption plans.

DOE, along with other Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) representatives, held a virtual public meeting to discuss fiscal year 2022 Hanford Site cleanup budget priorities. DOE's presentation focused on the budget process, the site's recent budget profile, and a list of DOE-Hanford top priorities including ongoing projects that support each priority. Other TPA representatives also provided brief statements on their perspectives regarding the budget process, support provided by DOE for the process, and overall funding provided to advance TPA cleanup priorities. All TPA representatives encouraged members of the public to submit their comments and questions during the 30-day comment period which ends on July 15, 2020. During the question and answer period, questions from members of the public suggested disappointment in the level of detail that DOE provided regarding funding levels proposed in the FY-22 budget and indicated that they did not consider the information sufficient to support their ability to provide meaningful comment. DOE noted their concern, but emphasized that the purpose of the meeting was to gather information from the public regarding risk priorities rather than discuss funding levels.

Tank Side Cesium Removal (TSCR): The TSCR Safety Design Integration Team (SDIT) met to discuss necessary revisions to the TSCR process hazard analysis after it was determined that the lifting and rigging program, which is a primary control for protecting process systems and expended capsules from damage during lifting and rigging events, did not cover all equipment or conditions that might result in this type of event. The SDIT defined a new scenario to address the gap and proposed controls for evaluation during a future control selection meeting.