

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

July 6, 2001

TO: K. Fortenberry, Technical Director

FROM: D. Grover and M. Sautman, Hanford Site Representatives

SUBJ: Activity Report for the Week Ending July 6, 2001

Mr. Sautman was out of the office on leave this week.

224-T: Fluor Hanford (FH) reentered E-Cell this week to obtain more data on the current conditions in the facility. As reported last week, information from the first entry permitted the protective equipment to be reduced from double sets of anti-contamination clothing and supplied air respirators to a single set using a powered air purifying respirator. However due to high air temperatures work could only be performed for 1 ½ hours before the effectiveness of the protective clothing degraded as sweat began to saturate the clothing. Contamination surveys of the floor at various locations found low levels of alpha contamination and no beta contamination. Dose surveys showed readings of only 0.1 mrem in the general areas as well as next to the bottom of the tanks. This would indicate that there is little material in the tanks. FH is preparing to perform the assay of the tanks as well as setting up containment structures for the entry into the F-Cell. FH is working to address the issue of degrading the effectiveness of the anti-contamination clothing. Proposed solutions may include a combination of working alternate shifts so work is performed earlier in the day, cooling suits, or moisture resistant fabric for the clothing. (III-B)

cc: Board Members