

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

September 3, 1999

TO: G. W. Cunningham, Technical Director

FROM: R. Arcaro, Hanford Site Representative
M. Sautman Hanford Site Representative

SUBJ: Activity Report for the Week Ending September 3, 1999

Mark Sautman arrived this week to assume duties as the second Hanford Site Representative.

A. Site Reorganization: Both DOE Richland (DOE-RL) and Fluor Daniel Hanford (FDH) announced major reorganizations this week. One major change in DOE-RL is the creation of two deputy manager positions; one for "Site Transition," - primarily cleanup work; and one for "Business Services." One focus of the change at FDH is the intended elimination of management levels within FDH in order to free up funds for cleanup. More significant is that major subcontractors will no longer be substantially responsible for large projects. FDH will assign subcontractors to projects based on expertise of individuals. This initiative represents a major change to the Management and Integration concept and will likely require substantial contract changes. Lockheed Martin Hanford Company will transition to a prime contractor under the auspices of the DOE Office of River Protection. The new organizations are scheduled to be effected by October 1, 1999. The site reps will discuss with the DOE Site Manager and the President of FDH implementation details and specifics as to how the new organization will improve cleanup. (I-B.1)

B. Contamination Events: Two potentially significant personnel contamination events occurred this week. In the KE-Basin, poor control and authorization of work resulted in a job being performed on contaminated equipment without sufficient controls to prevent the spread of contamination. An electrician received skin contamination and a positive nasal smear. In U Tank Farm, work on a transfer line in a glovebag resulted in the skin contamination of three operators. A leak in the glovebag is suspected. The site reps will continue to evaluate these incidents as potential indicators of degrading radiological control practices at the site. (I-A.2)

C. Spent Nuclear Fuel Project: The Primary Clean Machine wash basket arrived on site, but problems with a related gearbox are delaying the basket's installation. (I-A.3)

cc: Board members