

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

July 17, 1998

TO: G.W. Cunningham, Technical Director

FROM: P.F. Gubanc, Oak Ridge Site Representative

SUBJ: Activity Report for Week Ending July 17, 1998

Staff member Helfrich and outside expert Bob Lewis were at Y-12 this week to observe the DOE-HQ review of Integrated Safety Management. Staff member Owen visited Y-12 this week to participate in a lessons-learned workshop on the Enriched Uranium (EU) Phase A1 restart.

A. Y-12 Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS) Review: A DOE ISMS review team, lead by Joe King, was at Y-12 all week receiving briefings from Lockheed Martin (LMES) and the DOE Y-12 Site Office (YSO) on how ISMS is being implemented at Y-12. The DOE team will return the weeks of August 3 and 10 to conduct its field work. The ISMS implementation (Phase-2) review will be focused on five facilities within the LMES Nuclear and EU Operations organizations.

On a related item, despite prior requests from Joe King and YSO, the DOE-Oak Ridge Operations Office designated lead on ISMS did not participate in this week's ISMS activities. After I inquired about his absence, he was directed by his boss (the Assistant Manager [AM] for ES&H) to attend Thursday's proceedings (he was on leave). When it became clear that this individual could not be part of the ISMS review team (since he missed most of the training and briefings), the AM for ES&H committed that this person would participate in an upcoming ISMS review at Sandia.

B. Y-12 Training: This week, LMES and YSO followed up on my observations regarding radiological worker and respirator training.

1. The question with the incorrect answer in the basic respirator computer-based exam has been deleted. (The answer has been incorrect since mid-May.) Those who received that question during testing have been contacted with the correct answer. LMES is reviewing their process to find how the error escaped their quality reviews and was not discovered for two months.
2. Posted donning and doffing instructions which were informally modified have been replaced (they set a poor conduct of operations example). During my verification walkdown, I discovered LMES had only corrected the postings in one location, not all. The training center manager has promised to personally conduct a complete walkdown of ALL training spaces, for ANY informal postings, with ALL her direct reports early next week.
3. In meeting with the LMES ES&H manager, he committed to evaluate and address each of my observations regarding respirator training and testing.
4. I will meet with the LMES Radiological Controls manager next week.

C. Y-12 Building 9204-2: In portions of this building the first floor ceiling is spalling off concrete due to attack by corrosive vapors. Assessments by the LMES structural engineers have been forwarded to Joel Blackman who plans a visit next month. I plan to walkdown this building Monday.

cc: Board members