

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

May 29, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR: G.W. Cunningham, Technical Director

FROM: T. Dwyer and H. Waugh, Pantex Site Representatives

SUBJECT: Pantex Plant Activity Report for Week Ending May 29, 1998

DNFSB Activity Summary: Harry Waugh was on site all week. Timothy Dwyer was on vacation. Jay DeLoach was on site for the week.

W79 Mechanical Bay Disassembly: DOE/AL has been pushing MHC and the W79 Project Team to meet the W79 Bay First Dismantlement Unit (FDU) date of May 29. After working late last night, the W79 Project Team is now putting the finishing touches on the closure package with the hope of obtaining telecon approvals from DOE/AL and DOE/DP to begin mechanical disassembly activities in the bay by this afternoon. However, lightning protection and fire protection issues remain to be resolved that could impact the FDU start date.

Pantex Plant Citizens Advisory Board (PPCAB) Meeting: At the PPCAB meeting on Tuesday, the PPCAB had a representative from Parker-Hall, Inc. give a presentation on their “independent” assessment of the six environmental monitoring programs at Rocky Flats. The intent of the presentation was to provide some lessons learned on how the Rocky Flats CAB dealt with environmental issues from these programs. However, the presentation was not tailored to the audience in the PPCAB, had too much extraneous technical information, and provided little benefit to the PPCAB. A copy of the presentation was faxed to the Board’s Site Representatives at Rocky Flats for their review. In other information, it was announced that Rich Lee would be the new Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) Pantex Section Manager in Amarillo and that David Hastings would be new TNRCC Project Manager in Austin to handle technical/environmental issues for the Pantex Plant. Joe Martilotti, Texas State Department of Health-Bureau of Radiological Control, stated that the publication of the final report on the epidemiological study for this area has been delayed until the July-August timeframe.

Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS): A MHC team conducting a self-assessment of the implementation of the ISMS for Weapons Assembly/Disassembly/Evaluation was observed. The purpose was to evaluate the implementation status and identify gaps in the ISMS for Dismantlement & Inspection (D&I) processes for a generic weapons system. This was part of the preparation for a Phase I verification review in the August-September 1998 timeframe. Three MHC personnel leading the self-assessment asked tough, demanding questions about the implementation status which resulted in uncovering many gaps in their process. The self-assessment results and the gaps will be presented to MHC management for resolution during a management retreat in early June.

Attachment
Upcoming Pantex Events:

June 2-4 -- DOE Lightning Workshop (@ DOE-AL)

June 3 -- W87 ASSET Final Management Team Review

June 5 -- W79 Cell Startup

June 9-19 -- W62 NES Revalidation

June 15-26 -- Building 12-116 DOE ORR (tentative)

June 15-18 -- U.K visit - SS21

June 15-26 -- W56 SIRR (tentative)

??Jul -- Building 12-116 startup

Jul 7-8 -- W78 SEP

Jul 8 -- Quarterly Production Meeting

July 9-13 -- NES Electrical Tester Master Study SIID validation [adequacy review]

???? -- B61-7 Limited Readiness Assessment

July 30-August 26 -- NES Electrical Tester Master Study

August 28 -- Bldg 12-104A Paint Bay MSA commences

NOTES: ** highlights events which are new listings or for which schedule has changed