

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

March 19, 2010

TO: T. J. Dwyer, Technical Director
FROM: W. Linzau and R. Quirk, Hanford Site Representatives
SUBJECT: Hanford Activity Report for the Week Ending March 19, 2010

Board members J. Mansfield, J. Bader, L. Brown, and P. Winokur as well as staff members T. Dwyer, R. Kasdorf, D. Ogg, A. Poloski, S. Seprish, S. Stokes, and J. Troan were on-site for discussions with the Office of River Protection (ORP) and the Richland Operations Office (RL), and their contractors. The topics discussed include:

- DOE oversight of activities funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act;
- the need for DOE to protect assumptions in existing facility safety analyses, with due consideration of potential changes in land usage;
- Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) hazards and controls for hydrogen, material at risk, and mixing in waste vessels;
- Tank Farms changes to the work control process and safety basis, plans for retrieving waste in the near term, and long-term plans for feeding waste to WTP;
- Plateau Remediation Contractor verification of the Integrated Safety Management System, TRU waste retrieval project plans, Plutonium Finishing Plant D&D and conduct of operations, and Sludge Treatment Project plans; and
- River Corridor Closure Project plans for Building 324 D&D and remediation of silos at the 118-K burial ground.

The Board and staff also performed a walkdown of the WTP construction site and observed mixing tests at an off-site facility. The Board and staff also walked down the HAMMER Training and Education Center.

Waste Treatment Plant: The site rep met with the ORP subject matter expert for electrical distribution and discussed plans for the emergency diesel generators, the cause for the small fire in the temporary electrical distribution system (see Activity Report 1/29/10), and the potential need for increased electrical power to WTP. The contractor recently completed an analysis that concluded the substation for WTP does not have the needed margin for growth and contingency. ORP requested the Tank Operations Contractor to analyze the options for providing the additional power.