



Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

May 31, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

THROUGH:

John Gordon
Administrator

FROM:

For Everet H. Beckner
Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2000-2, Configuration Management, Vital Safety Systems

ISSUE:

Commitment No. 20 of the Department's Implementation Plan for Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2000-2 states: "Annually, Lead Program Secretarial Officers will review the results of Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) assessments performed during the previous year and provide the Secretary with a summary report for each of their sites." The original due date established in the Implementation Plan for Defense Programs to meet this commitment was February 2002 but was extended to April 2002 to be consistent with the publication of DOE Notice 231.1, Environment, Safety and Health Reporting Notice. The DNFSB was provided DOE N 231.1 via letter dated January 17, 2002. The summary National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) report for meeting this commitment is attached. The Departmental Representative to the DNFSB will provide this NNSA summary report to DNFSB simultaneously to its submittal to the Secretary.

BACKGROUND:

In Recommendation 2000-2, the Board recommended that the Department of Energy (DOE) ensure safety system status, as well as supporting programs, is scrutinized as a regular part of assessments performed by line management. In



accepting the DNFSB's recommendation, DOE committed to review line oversight of contractor programs to determine whether safety systems, as well as programs essential to system operability, are being included.

In order to provide senior leadership with information obtained from these oversight and feedback processes, DOE committed to begin a regular practice of annually reviewing ES&H assessments at each site and summarizing the results for the Secretary. On January 15, 2002, DOE Notice 231.1, Environment, Safety and Health reporting Notice, was promulgated. The DOE Notice 231.1 provides instructions for the annual report on ES&H assessments.

All NNSA sites have improved assessments of safety systems. This was an area needing improvement as noted in last year's report. Further institutionalization of safety system assessments focusing on system aging and degradation is warranted. NNSA field element managers were requested to address this issue via memorandum from the Acting Associate Administrator for Facilities and Operations dated April 9, 2002. Issues that have been identified by each site office appear to be well understood, and actions are underway to address these issues. A listing of the more significant issues for improvement is included in the NNSA summary report. No issue requires action from the Secretary, and no issues have been identified by field element managers as requiring assistance.

SENSITIVITIES

None.

POLICY IMPACT:

None.

NEXT STEPS:

The NNSA Office of Environment, Safety and Health Operations Support will pay close attention to how each NNSA site's oversight of contractor assessment programs are conducted. Of particular

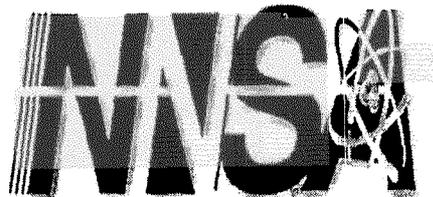
interest will be assessments focused on safety system material condition and/or condition inspection. Additionally, NNSA sites are tasked to ensure sufficient oversight and proper implementation of contractor system engineering programs.

RECOMMENDATION: None.

Attachment

cc:

B. Cook, EH-1



**National Nuclear Security Administration
Defense Programs**

**Annual Summary Report 2001:
Environment, Safety &
Health Assessments**

**Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
Recommendation 2000-2
Configuration Management Vital Safety Systems
Commitment #20**

April 2002

**National Nuclear Security Administration
Defense Programs
Annual Summary Report 2000:
Environment, Safety and Health Assessments**

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Commitment #20: Annually, LPSOs will review the results of ES&H assessments performed during the previous year and provide the Secretary with a summary report for each of their sites.

Background:

In Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Recommendation 2000-2, Configuration Management Vital Safety Systems, the Board recommended that the Department of Energy (DOE) ensure that safety system status and support programs are scrutinized as a regularized part of assessments performed by line management. In order to provide senior DOE management with information obtained from these oversight and feedback processes, DOE committed to review Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) assessments performed by the maintenance and operation (M&O) contractor and DOE site organizations and to summarize the results for the Secretary.

In accordance with DOE's Implementation Plan for DNFSB Recommendation 2000-2, the Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health (EH-1) is responsible for institutionalizing the annual summary of ES&H assessments as a requirement in the Directives System (see commitment 21). In the interim, limited guidance to DOE Field Element Managers for the annual summary report was provided in section 4.3 in the Implementation Plan. Subsequently, with the release of DOE N 231.1, *Environment, Safety and Health Reporting Notice*, on January 15, 2002, further guidance was provided, including assessments for non-defense nuclear facilities. The Notice also required that DOE Field Elements submit their reports to the Lead Program Secretarial Officer/Cognizant Secretarial Officer (LPSO/CSO) by the end of March each year and that LPSO/CSO review the annual reports. An overall summary report to the Secretary is required by the end of April each year. Also, on January 28, 2002, the Acting Associate Administrator for Facilities and Operations provided supplemental guidance on format and content for the annual report consistent with DOE N 231.1.

Introduction:

This ES&H assessment summary is provided to fulfill the commitment for calendar year 2001 for the National Nuclear Security Administration/Defense Programs (NNSA/DP). The NNSA/DP site assessment summary reports address the following objectives:

- Briefly describe the implementation of DOE Policy 450.5, Line ES&H Oversight, and Integrated Safety Management;

- Summarize the schedule and scope of ES&H assessments;
- Summarize the significant issues from ES&H assessments, corrective actions to address significant issues, and status of incomplete actions;
- Discuss any significant lessons learned and improvements; and
- Provide an appendix listing ES&H assessments consolidated by assessment type.

Consistent with Section 4.e of DOE N 231.1, this report has the overall objective of summarizing the review of the individual site office reports and informing the Secretary of:

- Actions taken to address significant issues that are crosscutting, actions taken at individual sites, and actions taken by the Headquarters Line organization.
- Significant Issues for which field element managers requested assistance.

NNSA/DP ES&H Assessment Summary Results:

Each of the DP site organizations submitted a summary report of ES&H assessments for calendar year 2001 as required by the DOE Implementation Plan for DNFSB Recommendation 2000-2 and consistent with direction from the Acting Associate Administrator for Facilities and Operations (NA-50, memorandum dated January 28, 2002). The individual site summary reports are available for review on request.

A review of the DP site organization summary reports indicates that:

- All NNSA/DP sites have adequate assessment programs instituted as part of oversight and feedback mechanisms that satisfy the requirements of DOE P 450.5, *Line Environment, Safety and Health Oversight*;
- Each NNSA/DP site has a program that tracks ES&H assessment findings and open issues and tracks these issues to closure;
- No NNSA/DP Field Element Manager has asked for assistance in addressing significant open issues;
- All NNSA/DP sites have improved the focus on assessments related to safety systems. This was identified as an overall area for improvement in the CY 2000 summary; and
- Summary tables of CY 2001 assessments provide an adequate perspective on the frequency, type, and scope of assessments completed.

Each site has included discussion of issues identified, lessons learned and opportunities for improvement. Listed below are the more significant issues identified by site:

Los Alamos National Laboratory: Work Control, ES&H staffing, and development of Corrective Action Plans.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory: Work Permit, Document Control,

Implementation of 10 C.F.R 830 Authorization Basis Documentation.

Nevada: Readiness Assessments.

Pantex: Configuration Management, Adherence to Procedures, and Ensuring attention to degradation of Plant Wide Fire Protection System.

Oak Ridge Y12: Authorization Basis implementation consistent with 10 C.F.R 830 and Continued Attention to Reducing Backlog of Fire Protection Testing, Maintenance and Inspection.

Oak Ridge Building 3019: Walkdowns and Condition Assessments.

No NNSA/DP site requested that Headquarters action or assistance was necessary to address the issues identified. While it would appear that there are no common crosscutting themes, a number of issues relate to assessments of systems. The issues identified by each NNSA/DP site appear to be understood with actions underway to address each one. Each site has improved the focus of assessments on safety systems. To address the common issue related to assessment of safety systems, action is needed to further institutionalize these assessments with attention to system aging and degradation. To address this issue, the Acting Associate Administrator for Facilities and Operations (NA-50) requested that each NNSA/DP Field Element Manager inform their respective line program office of how they will formally assess safety systems in the long term including a discussion of their intent of using the available Criteria Review and Approach Documents (CRAD) as part of this review. The CRAD includes criteria specifically focused on system aging and degradation.

Conclusion and Recommendation:

Calendar Year 2001 ES&H assessments reports from NNSA/DP Field Element Managers adequately summarize the schedule and scope of assessments, the more significant issues, lessons learned, and an overall summary listing of assessments. These reports are improved over the last annual report, and it is anticipated that further improvements will be forthcoming as DOE Notice 231.1 is formally used to develop the submittal for Calendar Year 2002. While attention to assessments of safety systems has improved relative to the previous year, continued improvement is expected to fully ensure that safety system aging and degradation is explicitly addressed. The NNSA/DP Field Element Managers have been requested to more formally define how they will assess safety systems with attention to system aging and degradation.

The individual NNSA/DP ES&H assessment reports are available upon request.