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# Management of Activities Under DNFSB Recommendations 2000-1 and 97-1

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Panel Introductory Remarks  
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***Background: Recommendation 94-1  
Strategy for Nuclear Materials Stabilization***

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- Goal was to address highest risk materials in first 3 years, in accordance with Board's recommendation
  - Vented residue drums at Rocky Flats
  - Vented Pu solution bottles at PFP
  - Repackaged all Pu in contact with plastic
  - Stabilized Mk-31 targets at SRS
  - Performed 100% vault inventory at LANL
- Stabilization activities have been given a high priority among competing DOE missions
- Stabilization program has taken longer than originally planned; compensatory measures are in place to ensure continued safety of workers and public

## *Recommendation 2000-1*

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- Board's Recommendation issued January 14, 2000
- Re-emphasized the remaining 94-1 stabilization actions
- Department's Implementation Plan issued June 8, 2000; addressed the nine technical sub-recommendations from 2000-1 related to stabilization
- Revision 1 of 2000-1 Implementation Plan issued January 19, 2001; incorporated several individual milestone changes as well as a new baseline for LANL stabilization

## *Stabilization Progress*

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- K-Basins fuel movement initiated in December 2000
- Plutonium packaging systems (compliant to 3013 Standard) coming on-line this year (Livermore, Rocky Flats, Hanford)
- Design of 235-F stabilization and storage capability at Savannah River Site on schedule

## *2000-1 Current Issues*

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- TVA HEU Agreement for SRS HEU
- Start of plutonium packaging at RFETS

## *2000-1 Management Team*

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- Comprised of Office Directors of programs with 2000-1 responsibilities, as well as EH, GC, and CR as appropriate
- Monthly meetings to discuss issues and and update status for Responsible Manager
- Monitor inputs into SIMS

## *DNFSB Recommendation 97-1*

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- Scope of Recommendation 97-1 (issued 05/97) concerns safe storage of Department's  $^{233}\text{U}$  inventory
- Inventory is primarily at ORNL and INEEL ( ~400kg each) with minor amounts at other sites
- $^{233}\text{U}$  is a legacy material from past nuclear development programs and presence of certain decay isotopes in the inventory creates a radiological hazard which makes handling difficult
- It is weapons usable but its promise was primarily as a reactor fuel

## *DNFSB Recommendation 97-1 Implementation Status*

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- Major issue concerns integrity of  $^{233}\text{U}$  packages in storage at ORNL
- Department's plan is to begin package sample inspection program in late summer of FY01; remote handling system for packages to be used
- Department considering making  $^{233}\text{U}$  inventory available for commercial processing of beneficial isotopes
  - would disposition inventory and resolve storage problems at ORNL
  - provide greater supply of much needed isotopes to medical community for cancer research an potential treatment



## *DNFSB Recommendation 97-1 Managing the <sup>233</sup>U Program*

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- 97-1 Technical Team formed to integrate and execute actions specified by 97-1 Implementation Plan (IP)
- Team consists of technical specialists, site representatives from affected sites, and representatives from DOE HQ organizations with jurisdiction or ownership of facilities and material
- Ability of team members to speak for the sites and funding organizations expedited execution of IP
- Regular team meetings provided necessary interaction for planning and integration of activities

*DNFSB Recommendation 97-1*  
*Managing the <sup>233</sup>U Program (con't)*

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- Program Execution Plan (PEP) developed using a systems engineering approach to define <sup>233</sup>U program tasks, integrate site activities, and provide basis for budget formulation
- Result: **On time completion of 97-1 commitments**

## *DNFSB Recommendation 97-1*

### *Recent Developments*

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- Secretarial public commitment to ensure availability of  $^{233}\text{U}$  material for cancer treatment clinical trials (6/00)
- ORNL EOI (6/00)
- DOE Decision to issue RFP at ORNL(9/00)
- Draft RFP issued for ORNL Inventory (1/01); comments are being evaluated
- INEEL began trade studies to examine and validate potential beneficial uses of  $^{233}\text{U}$  and infrastructure to support prospective uses