Pinellas Plant Site Profile Update

Peter A. Darnell, CHP, RRPT

Health Physicist National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Division of Compensation Analysis and Support

> December 2011 Tampa, FL





Background

- DOE operations 1957 to 1997
 - Plant was located in Clearwater, FL
 - Produced precisely-timed neutron generators used to initiate nuclear explosions

 Accelerator-type neutron generators produced at Pinellas gradually replaced polonium-beryllium initiators manufactured at the Mound site

 Also fabricated other weapons components that included: lightning-arrestor connectors, specialty capacitors, crystal resonators, magnetics, and optoelectronic devices





Background_cont.

- September 1994, Pinellas stopped producing weapons-related components and began to change its mission to environmental management
 - The Department of Energy (DOE) transferred much of the Pinellas production capability to the Kansas City Plant in Missouri and the Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico
- DOE completed cleanup of the site in December 1997
- Contractors
 - General Electric Company (1957-1992)
 - Lockheed Martin Specialty Components, Inc. (1992-1997)





History of the Site Profile Review

- 2005 Initial Pinellas Plant TBD completed
- 2006 TBD updates (page changes) completed for the External (2), Site Description and X-ray sections
- May 2007 SC&A review of the Pinellas profile submitted
 - 11 primary issues and 8 secondary issues
- June 2008 Pinellas Work Group meeting
 - Agreement in principle for satisfying SC&A issues





October 2011 WG Meeting

Updates to the Pinellas Plant Site Profile

- July 2011
 - Introduction (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-1, Rev 01)
 - Site Description (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-2, Rev 02)
 - Occupational Environmental Dose (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-4, Rev 01)
 - Occupational Internal Dose (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-5, Rev 01)
- August 2011 Occupational External Dose (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-6, Rev 01)
- October 2011 Occupational Medical Dose (ORAUT-TKBS-0029-3, Rev 01)



October 2011 WG Meeting-cont.

- Discussion of the review matrix
 - 11 primary and 8 secondary issues
 - -Primary issues include:
 - 1. Reconstruction of doses in the absence of early health physics, industrial hygiene, and environmental records
 - 2. Potential doses from insoluble metal tritides not sufficiently addressed
 - 3. Minimum detectable concentrations and uncertainties for plutonium and bioassay measurements are inadequately addressed (Occupational Internal Dose; ORAUT-TKBS-0029-5)





October 2011 WG Meeting-cont.

Discussion of the review matrix—cont.

- 4. Assessment of personnel badging policy during early years needs further review
- **5.** Problems with personnel dosimetry
- Decontamination and decommission (D&D) era of Pinellas operations is not sufficiently addressed
- 7. Missing internal dose estimation methods for unmonitored workers (e.g., maintenance and support personnel)





October 2011 WG Meeting-cont.

- Discussion of the review matrix—cont.
 - 8. Potential missed dose for depleted uranium
 - 9. The TBD fails to adequately define and assess occupational medical exposure
 - **10.** Techniques and protocols increase uncertainty of dose conversion factors listed in the TBD
 - **11.** Frequency and type of X-ray exposure is uncertain



Work Group Path Forward

- NIOSH revising Pu bioassay section of the TBD
- SC&A
 - Reviewing documents to verify changes reported by NIOSH
 - Revisiting Pu bioassay data
 - Conducting personnel interviews (December 9, 2011)



