

NCSX Project Team Meeting: June 25, 2008



- Safety Minute
- June 20 Video Conference with DOE
- Final Closeout Plan & Staffing Plan
- 3-week look-ahead



Directors' All-hands memo reinforces a very important message to us all: "Do the right thing"



- STOP Training for Supervisors nearing completion
 - Provides a structured approach to
 - "seeing" safety
 - encouraging continued safe performance
 - observing, correcting, & preventing unsafe acts
 - STOP training for all employees to be rolled out next year
- Implementation of recommendations from a recent peer review of PPPL ES&H program
 - Identifying, reporting, analyzing, & responding to first-aid cases
- Commitment to address safety concerns

Importance of Safety at PPPL

PPPL'ers,

First and foremost, thank you for working safely. We do not want anyone to be hurt (at work or at home). Injuries and incidents affect the individual, families and coworkers.

Over the last several months the Laboratory has undertaken several initiatives to continue to improve safety.

We are now at about the mid-point of the "STOP" (DuPont Safety Training Observation Program) for supervisors, and are encouraged that this new tool in our Integrated Safety Management arsenal will help achieve an injury-free workplace. As part of the "homework" for the STOP training, you will be seeing supervisors performing observations of work. They will be speaking with you about working safely, and reinforcing positive safety behaviors. Occasionally, they will be talking with you about correcting unsafe behaviors and working together on actions to prevent their recurrence. You may also see them filling out cards that document their safety observations. As mentioned during last month's all hands meeting, these cards will be used to collect information for use in safety trending, and will not include names or other means to identify the persons observed. You should feel free to discuss the program with them and see the cards.

The Laboratory initiated a peer review of the Environment Safety & Health activities at the Laboratory. Experts from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory examined our systems and provided recommendations to the Director. These individuals interviewed many Laboratory staff members. They were extremely complimentary about our staff, your commitment to safety, and your dedication to make fusion work.

However, they did indicate that we might not be reporting all of our first-aid cases because of reluctance to have a negative impact on the Lab's performance metrics. Each of these experts reflected that identifying first-aid cases is much more important than the metrics and the grade given to the Laboratory. In fact, by emphasizing reporting of first-aid cases, their laboratories had initially increased rates of reported first-aid cases; however, this has allowed them to identify and fix issues before they resulted in more serious events. As a result, the overall safety at their labs has actually improved – as reflected by lower recordable and lost-time injury rates. It is extremely important that each event, no matter how minor, be reported and appropriate care obtained from the occupational medical office. They and we have had injuries, which if treated early, would have resulted in less extensive treatment as well as pain later.

We continue to address safety concerns that you have identified at our Safety Forums and submitted to the "SOS" box on the web. Everyone is encouraged to report any safety concerns to their supervisor, to an ES&H representative, or via the SOS box. Your name is not required to submit a suggestion to the SOS box. You can also view the actions taken as a result of your suggestions on the SOS web page (http://www-local.pppl.gov/eshis/Drop_box_link.html)

As leaders of this Laboratory, we want to continue to improve our systems and processes to make sure we perform our work activities safely. Your input is desired and welcomed. Thanks!

Team Mtg June 25, 2008

DOE Video Conference held on June 20 to discuss MIE Project Closeout & Risk-Reduction Engineering R&D Plans



- Meeting Objectives
 - Provide DOE look-ahead at cost, scope, & schedule to perform NCSX MIE Closeout
 - Provide prioritized list of stellarator risk reduction engineering R&D activities that will reduce future risks for construction of a stellarator in the future, maximizing what has been learned from the NCSX project
- Proposed MIE Scope:
 - Document work to date
 - Inventory and store all materiel
 - Complete modular & TF coil fabrication, & coils structures final design review
 - Complete welding 2 HFPA's & 1 HFPA trial fit up in FY08 before storing equipment
 - Terminate \$72.9M of scope presented at April Lehman Review
- Proposed R&D Ideas
 - Assembly Joint & Vacuum Vessel Welding
 - Thermal Insulation
 - Dimensional Control of Large Assembled Components
 - Cryostat / Cryogenics