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TO: Walter J. Williams, USAEC, Washington, D.C.

February 11, 1949

FROM: J. E. Travis, Acting Manager, Hanford
Operations Office, Richland, Washington

EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 9, 1949

SYMBOL: ICH:RWR

Enclosed is subject report for week ending February 9, 1949.

Encl: Copies #1 thru #12

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EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 9, 1949

Hanford Operations Office
Richland, Washington

I - ADMINISTRATION:

Labor Relations - As a result of the NLRB election, it is apparent that the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (AFL) will be recognized as the bargaining agent for eligible employees on the project. Of a total of 3248 eligible voters, 3224 ballots were cast, 4 of which were ruled invalid; 2138 votes were cast for and 1082 were cast against representation. The 99% turnout for voting purposes is considered highly unusual.

Safety - A fire at the AEC ferry operation resulted in an approximate loss of \$1300.00 to the government. Damage involved a tug boat, two Pen-Yan motor boats and a temporary boat shed.

II - OPERATIONS:

Metal Waste Recovery - A meeting attended by representatives of Carbide, General Electric, and the AEC was held in Richland, February 9, 1949, to design a mutually satisfactory shipping container for Hanford metal waste solutions. Visiting Hanford during the week of February 7 are Dr. Frank Hurd, E. M. Lang, Leo Waters, and R. C. Olson of Carbide K-25 Plant, Oak Ridge, Tennessee to review the waste sampling program and studies being prepared by General Electric for comparing various metal recovery methods.

III - CONSTRUCTION:

Process Areas:

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100 (Pile) Areas:

100-H - 82,835 pieces, or 75%, of the graphite for 105-H has been fabricated; layer No. 47 is now being assembled in the assembly block. The last of four elevated tanks is expected to be complete by February 19 except for painting; the 116 stack will be topped this week; gypsum decks on 184-H should be complete this week and the fan and apparatus rooms in 105-H have been poured. The 105-H Bldg. is 45% complete and the overall project is 48% complete.

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100-ER - Testing of the vertical and horizontal rods in the 105-DR Bldg. is in process; the overall project is 99% complete.

P-10 - No appreciable change noted for the week.

200 (Separation) Areas:

234-5 - Piping and equipment installation in the exhaust structure, mechanical equipment room and chemical preparation room is to start this week. Hauserman partitions which have been delaying work are expected immediately by air express. The ventilating system is now 63% complete and the piping is 57.5% complete. The entire project is 69.5% complete with Phase I at 69% complete.

Redox - The $3\frac{1}{2}$ foot base slab for the Redox Test plant was poured together with the bottoms for two test cells. The central mix plant in the 200-West area is now in operation.

Waste Storage - Wall steel has been set on $6\frac{1}{2}$ tanks on the 241-BY storage project, knuckles on the last three tanks are being fitted and X-ray shots are being taken on the first tank.

Process Area - General:

The stack gas decontamination project is 96% complete. Twelve (12) additional work items have been authorized recently.

The rehabilitation of the project railroad is 70% complete

A preliminary estimate on the rehabilitation of the 321 building, recently damaged by explosion and fire, is set at \$122,200 not including repairs or replacement of process equipment.

Richland Village:

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Housing - Exceptions noted in the acceptance inspections of the 1000 "Ranch" type dwellings are rapidly being corrected. The house construction on this project is considered 99.5% complete.

Schools - Final finish work such as painting and miscellaneous equipment installation is in progress on the Junior High School. Because of inadequate specifications for special equipment to be used in the gym, auditorium, and cafeteria, procurement has been delayed or made difficult.

Miscellaneous Construction:

Bid openings for the engineering work on the 700-Area Steam Plant addition will be held January 9.

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The automatic dial telephone project in Richland is 67% complete with 2,000 lines completed from relay cabinets to cable racks. 4,000 additional lines remain but work is delayed pending delivery of relay cabinets.

The 1152-B substation is now 90% complete with one transformer and two feeders in service and an additional feeder to be completed February 11. Final inspection of the subcontractor work on substation 1152-A will be made February 9. Overall work on this project is 60% complete.

The relocated irrigation ditch recently completed in connection with the Southern railroad outlet was accepted by the Columbia Irrigation District. Foundation test hole work has been increased from 11 to 15 holes; 7 are complete to date. A 15 foot layer of quicksand, 7 feet below the surface, has been found near the proposed Highway overpass; a gravel formation was discovered at 64 feet.

Personnel:

There are approximately 13,745 construction and 830 Architect Engineer (less Turnbull) employees on the payroll. Camp population is 12,504 and there are 343 applicants for trailer space.

IV - VISITORS:

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Colonel L. C. Barnes, Lt. Colonels C. C. Smith, Jr. and Paul Rigby, of the Headquarters, Sixth Army, and Messrs. E. H. Dhein and Albert C. J. Dippert of the Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C., are presently visiting the project in connection with the establishment of a permanent army camp either on or nearby the present reservation.

Mr. Thomas P. Graham, Jr., Regional Director, NLRB, Seattle, Washington, visited the project to observe the General Electric Metal Trades election being held February 8 and 9.

Messrs. Logan Emlet and J. A. Cox of Oak Ridge National Laboratories visited for discussions regarding isotope irradiations.

Dr. Burbage of the Monsanto Chemical Company visited to discuss special radiations and radiation hazards.

Messrs. N. F. McKay, R. H. Pyle, T. S. Doyle, James A. Davis, and O. R. Dinsmore of the Washington State Department of Highways, Messrs. H. L. Drake, David Meldrum, and J. P. Doetsch, Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, and Mr. Jay Perry, County Commissioner, Benton County, Wash., were here for a conference regarding the relocation of U.S. Highway No. 410. The need for and probable location of a new Columbia River bridge was also discussed.

V - SCHENECTADY - CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS KAPL:

Construction Progress:

Pilot Plant - Started application of floor topping on mezzanine and first floor. Continued installation of scales and tanks,

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cranes, and lighting service. Continued welding stainless steel floor lining in cell number 5.

Pilot Plant Laboratory - Continued installation of equipment and miscellaneous items of interior finishing in offices and laboratories. Continued installation of electrical and mechanical services and protective alarm systems. Partial occupancy of this laboratory was effected, this week.

General Office and Security Bldg. - Commenced aligning steel girts and erection of aluminum siding.

Physics Laboratory - Completed erection of aluminum siding and started installation of heater duct on second floor.

Central Shops - Completed installation of plumbing fixtures and commenced painting wall and ceiling surfaces on mezzanine floor.

Metallurgy and Engineering Bldg. - Started concreting walls of pits in south half of structure. Resumed work on excavation for steel lined floor depressions.

Chemistry Laboratory - Completed erection of catwalks except for gratings in service tunnel. Started installation of main telephone cable in basement.

Waste Concentration and Storage Bldg. - Started erection of structural steel for pump house. Continued formwork for floor slab at elevation 332, and for slab and beams of drum dryer cells at elevation 319. Completed setting stainless steel lining in cold evaporator cell.

Boiler House and Laundry - Concreted top slab of spray pond pit. Completed application of floor topping throughout building.

Garage and Fire Station - Construction completed except for hanging of doors, installation of unit heaters and general cleanup work.

General:

West Milton Area - Completed drilling water well at approximately 600 feet and started setting up test pump. Started clearing for east ditch excavation and continued excavation for northwest and southwest drainage ditches. Concreted west abutment for bridge and started formwork for wing walls.

Construction work at KAPL was placed on a 40-hour week basis in lieu of 45-hour week as of Monday.

Representatives of the Steamfitters and Plumbers union called upon the manager to protest the reduction in the work week. After much discussion they appeared to be satisfied and agreed to continue to exert their best efforts to furnish workmen as required.

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Approvals have been obtained from the Technical Cooperation Program for the following people to visit the KAPL project: Dr. David Keys, head of the Canadian Atomic Energy project, and Colonel Curtis Nelson, AEC liaison officer at Chalk River, and Mr. H. Tongue, chief engineer at Harwell.

Colonel Dutton of Army Ordnance visited the Schenectady office at our request to advise us on certain design problems.

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