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September 29, 1955

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WEEKLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 23-29, 1955
300-M AREA - SAVANNAH RIVER PLANT

I. ITEMS REQUESTED OF ENGINEERING

1. Building T-1001

DQ sheets covering procurement of the salt bath furnace have been prepared by Engineering and have been transmitted to SROO for approval. Although the project has already been authorized, placement of the order awaits notification of final DQ sheet approval. Low quotation of \$16,200 was received from Trent.

2. ESF Production Facility Study

Comments on the preliminary flow sheet, issued by the Engineering Department as the initial phase of their study of installing ESF manufacturing facilities in the 300 Area, have been received from the plant. These comments have been reviewed and passed on to Engineering.

3. Prototype Pneumatic Pressing Autoclaves

Progress and expenditures to date on design of a production size autoclave for pneumatic pressing of

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flat plates or natural tubes were reviewed with Engineering during the week. It now appears that the study has progressed to the point where a general review of the work with the Technical Division would be in order during the second or third week in October.

II. ITEMS OF INTEREST

HF Program

Development work on hot pressing of large diameter hollow uranium cores is actively progressing. Sylvania feels that they have essentially overcome all but one of the deficiencies observed in the small diameter solid and hollow slugs previously shipped to SRP; the exception being the problem of thin spire wall at the spire-to-can-bottom interface. Current experience indicates that somewhere in the range of 75% or more of the canned pieces are what SEP terms "good quality" assemblies, the remainder being unacceptable because of the spire wall thinning. At present, destructive testing is the only manner in which this defect can be detected.

A small shipment of sections of good slugs from SEP is scheduled to be made to SRP on 9/29. Other than the above pieces, no shipments of hot pressed assemblies are planned until the difficulty with spire wall thickness is overcome.

Three hundred large cans and spires from SEP were shipped to the plant on 9/28 for use in the concurrent ALSi canning development program being conducted at SRP. To date a total of 150 small diameter hollow uranium cores have been ALSi canned at the plant with encouraging results.

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