

III. Systems

A. Reserve Strategy

3)
L

~~SECRET~~ UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SECRET~~

b(5) DOZ

~~SECRET~~ UNCLASSIFIED

b (3)
DOE

UNCLASSIFIED
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

b3
DOE
UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

The W68 pits are currently located at several sites (at Pantex, Rocky Flats, Savannah River and in retired warheads at DoD sites). We recommend that they be consolidated in one location as soon as possible, but such an action would probably have to await the completion of the Pantex Site-Wide EIS and other NEPA documents currently being developed within the DOE. We will continue to monitor such activities and will pursue such a consolidation as soon as possible. The W62 and B61 pits in the reserve will all be from the inventory at Pantex (including those from future dismantlement activities) and will remain there pending further decisions on pit storage in the DOE complex.

The following guidance regarding the storage of reuse pits was issued jointly by LLNL and LANL in August 1992.

"The pits should be stored in an approved container and array that provides for mechanical protection and gives due consideration for thermal and criticality management. A molecular sieve desiccant should be placed inside the container with an elastomer dust seal. The humidity inside the pit storage facility should be such that a non-condensing environment is maintained. Specific attention needs to be given to supporting the tube or tubes to protect the tube-pit joint. Damaged pits should be treated separately and designated for dismantlement."

LLNL and LANL have indicated that this guidance remains in effect and is appropriate for the reuse pits identified above. Specific questions regarding this guidance should be brought to AL's attention as soon as possible.

V. Uranium

Canned subassemblies (CSA's), like pits, are effective, reliable storage configurations for special nuclear material. Given the resources required to manufacture and accept the CSA's being removed from the stockpile and their potential for reuse to support the strategic reserve mission, we believe that it is prudent that the majority of the uranium reserve consist of CSA's.

DOE
b(3)

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

b(3)

(S)
DOE
|

DOE
b(3)

DOE

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

(S)
DSE

~~While these components~~ appear to be the most appropriate to retain in the reserve, we will periodically review the objectives of the reserve against the systems being removed from the stockpile to determine if different components or a different mix of components is more appropriate.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

VI. Tritium

The tritium strategic reserve is fundamentally different from the plutonium and uranium reserves in that it is not set to provide a replacement capability for the active stockpile. Rather, it is set to the net quantity of tritium required to support stockpile maintenance, research, development, testing, stockpile evaluation, decay, and commercial sales for the next five years. HQ is responsible for determining what the required tritium reserve quantity is and providing that to AL. AL will monitor (using the Master Nuclear Schedule) the tritium inventory and report to HQ whether or not sufficient tritium exists to meet this requirement.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~