

Savannah River Site M&O Contract: Maintaining ISM System Focus during Contract Transition

Anthony M. (Tony) Umek

Vice President, Environmental, Safety, Health & Quality Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC March 2, 2009



Waste Management Conference 2009

Phoenix, Arizona

Clarity of Vision and Commitment to Values

Establishing "safety" as No. 1 priority from day 1

- Reflect the best interests of all Site employees and the public
- Understand the DOE client and the Site in the "big picture" context — DOE Complex, state, national, international
- Integrate/collaborate with other Site contractors
- Establish challenging HSSE/Q goals up front (e.g., "Zero Incidents" Program)
- Maintain open/transparent communication no surprises for the client
- Meet early on with regulators and stakeholders



Integrating "HSSE/Q" into SRS Transition

Establishing the prerequisite from the beginning

- Focus on safe, secure, environmentally compliant operations at all times
- Understand overall Site conditions: major hazards and risks that must be managed over time
- Build collaborative relationships with other Site contractors, subcontractors, and community at large
- Establish the organization needed to implement management approach: identify, retain or replace critical staff
- Have access to Staff Augmentation contracts to fill holes





Engaging Stakeholders & the Community

Being a good neighbor







- Be accessible to stakeholders and media
- Continue to meet with regulators
- Be actively involved in community agencies (Red Cross, United Way)
- Encourage folks to support sitesponsored community activities (Project Vision, College Night, Tech Days, National Engineers Week)
- Earn recognition as valuable members of the communities we serve



SRNS Readiness to Assume Contract Responsibility

Ready on day 1

- Detailed/comprehensive review of people, hardware/facilities, and documentation
- Conduct formal facility walk downs integrated and cross cutting
- Use standardized, formal "Transition Readiness Reports"
- Maintain frequent communication with the client



Maintaining ISM Compliance During Transition

Use existing documents and systems wherever possible

- Evaluate/adapt or modify existing controlling documents via "blue sheeting" – can be a significant task
- Adapt or create Service Level Agreements (SLA) and MOA/MOUs
- Obtain DOE approval of key compliance documents (e.g., 10CFR851 WSHP)
- Prepare a compliant ISM system description to support declaring post-transition readiness



Lessons Learned – Feedback and Improvement

A balancing act

- Transition complexities
 - Multi-contractor SLAs, MOUs/MOAs
- Clarity of Request for Proposal definitions (e.g., Material Control & Accountability Inventory)
- Focus on safety, continuity of operations pays off
 - Best 1st quarter OSHA performance on record
- People mapping, retention and/or replacement of critical staff is a challenge
- Integrating Site priorities given existing challenges
 - Funding, demographics, regulatory climate



Lessons Learned – Feedback and Improvement

Focused but flexible

- Interact with the work force as soon as practical
- Make effective use of existing Site resources
- Proactive training important for continuity and compliance
 - Industrial and radiological safety
 - Emergency preparedness
 - IT/cyber security
- Establish safety and security points of contact early on
- Walk the spaces, participate in Site-wide activities
 - Drills
 - Safety meetings (e.g., "Zero Incidents Council")
 - Subcontractor safety meetings



Post Transition Actions

Building a new culture, using the best from the past and the present

- Continue to communicate, communicate, communicate
- Address pre-existing conditions consistent with ISMS; focus on root cause, not symptoms
- Implement opportunities for improvement, including cultural change and focusing on value-added activities
- Build the workforce for the future (dealing with demographics)



Results to Date

- Site integrated ISMS declaration
- Fewer radiological events
 - 8 percent vs. 5 percent goal
- VPP STAR status granted
 - Continue existing safety programs
- Best fiscal-year 1st-quarter
 OSHA performance to
 date

FY 1st Quarter Safety Performance 2002 - 2009

1



