

EFCOG Best Practice #172

Best Practice Title: Termination of Safeguards Process

Facility: Y12 National Security Complex

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Brief Description of Best Practice:

A process was developed to ensure all necessary documentation and approvals were obtained for termination of safeguards on nuclear materials. Approval for termination of safeguards requires an evaluation from several organizations, and in some cases the effort level is extensive. The development of the termination of safeguards package is a teamwork effort between several organizations, at the contractor and federal level in these topical areas:

Material Control and Accountability

Material Management and Disposition

Transportation

Waste Management

Production

Engineering

Risk Management

Why the best practice was used:

The requirements for waste disposition have evolved over the years, and have changed in significance based on the national security environment. It was crucial to ensure all proper approvals were obtained for proper disposition of nuclear material.

What are the benefits of the best practice:

On the surface, the process generated efficiency within all organizations, including the approval circle, because the formats were familiar each time. However, the most significant benefit was the understanding between the organizations of each other's roles, responsibilities and concerns. As a result, this has generated benefits in many other areas of the business as well because we understand the big picture.

What problems/issues were associated with the best practice:

In the beginning, each organization owned their "piece" of the process, which made documentation and interface decisions a little more difficult. We finally assigned ownership to the Disposition group, since they would ultimately decide what materials had scope and funding to move to begin with. All the other organizations existed to provide requirements

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on what scope was needed.

How the success of the Best Practice was measured:

Y12 was able to evaluate and obtain approval on over 20 low-equity material forms that were in long-term storage and initiate a waste disposition project.

Description of process experience using the Best Practice:

This best practice concept was immediately adopted by other NNSA facilities. A guide is being developed by the EFCOG MC&A sub-working group to expand on the best practice. The MC&A community is also supporting the development of a guide in the Materials Management arena on determination of programmatic value that complements the termination of safeguards best practice/guide.

This process uses several functions of the Integrated Safeguards and Security Management System.

1: Define scope of work – The scope is defined by the Disposition group when funding/need is determined in the programmatic arena. The group initiates the discussion and documentation.

2: Analysis of hazards – Once the scope is defined, the supporting organization contribute the requirements for each part of the process. The hazard analysis is included in the documentation for approval.

3: Develop and implement controls – The Disposition group coordinates the project and material moves in accordance with the approved documentation.