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Overview

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Timeline

Enterprise Effort

NNSA’s Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories are the design agencies for the refurbished W76-1 warhead. The W76-1 Life Extension Program also requires the capabilities of scientists, engineers, technicians, and support personnel from the Pantex Plant, Y-12 National Security Complex, Savannah River Site, Kansas City National Security Campus, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Nevada National Security Site.

Surveillance

W76-1 surveillance activities disassemble warheads returned from submarines to identify potential aging issues in the warheads and their components that could affect reliability, safety, security, and performance. Some surveillance units are built into Joint Test Assemblies to conduct flight tests jointly with the Navy. Other units are built into test bed assemblies to conduct system-level ground tests. Ultimately, the data from these units is used to provide an annual assessment assuring the President that the warhead remains safe, secure, and reliable.