

February 1, 2005

Ms. Rita K. Ware, Environmental Scientist
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division (6EN-HX)
RCRA Hazardous Waste – Technical Section
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202



SUBJECT: Monthly Progress Report – January 2005
Former GE Albuquerque Apparatus Inspection & Repair Service Center
4420 McLeod Road, North East, Albuquerque, New Mexico
General Electric Consent Decree, Civil Action No. 87-1073-jb

Dear Ms. Ware:

On behalf of GE Energy (GE), URS Corporation (URS) hereby submits this Monthly Status report for the above-referenced facility. In July 2001, GE, USEPA and NMED entered into discussions following a period of reduced activity regarding the site. As a result of these discussions URS, on behalf of GE, has since prepared and submitted a revised document entitled *Revised Closure Plan, Final Corrective Measure Study Report, Preliminary Corrective Measure Implementation Work Plan (Work Plan)* for the Former Apparatus Service Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico on August 16, 2002. This document was prepared at the direction of the USEPA and NMED to replace previously prepared documents that had not been acted upon by the agencies.

On May 20, 2003, GE submitted Final Revisions to the Work Plan, which addressed USEPA's and NMED's comments on previous submittals. On August 11, 2003, GE received a letter, dated August 5, 2003, from USEPA that indicated the May 20, 2003 Final Revisions to the Work Plan met the USEPA's and NMED's requirements in USEPA's conditional approval letter, dated January 10, 2003. The August 5, 2003 letter also stated that NMED would provide their response in a separate letter. On December 9, 2003, GE received a hard copy of the Final Decision and Response to Comments (FDRC) document from USEPA. On December 22, 2003, representatives of GE and URS participated in a telephone conference with representatives of USEPA (Mr. Robert Wilkinson and Ms. Rita Ware) and NMED (Mr. Will Moats) to resolve minor discrepancies between the FDRC and previous correspondence from USEPA. On January 2, 2004, GE received a letter from NMED that approved the Final Revisions to the Work Plan.

Drilling activities were initiated at the site on February 3, 2004. Subsurface soil samples were collected at each boring location at the prescribed depths and in accordance with the procedures stated in the USEPA and NMED-approved Work Plan, and submitted on a daily basis to Severn Trent Laboratories (STL) for the analysis of PCBs by EPA Method 8082. Based on preliminary lab results, three additional soil borings were performed at the site to further define the limits of excavation. Ms. Rita Ware and Mr. Robert Wilkinson of the USEPA performed a site inspection

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on February 5, 2004. It is our understanding that USEPA was satisfied with site work and did not express any concerns regarding site work prior to departure from the site at completion of the USEPA site visit.

During the period of March through May 2004, URS conducted five additional rounds of soil sampling at the site. The intent of each of these sampling rounds was to define the limits of the planned excavation area outside of the building footprint. GE solicited bids from six potential contractors and ultimately received bids from three potential contractors.

The recent activities that have transpired since the preceding monthly progress report are:

- Based on discussions with potential contractors regarding subsurface conditions beneath the southern end of the building at the site, GE elected to collect soil samples beneath a portion of the canopied area at the south end of the building.
- URS advanced five additional borings at the site on January 25, 2005 to evaluate soil quality beneath the canopied area at the southeast corner of the building at the site. A total of 15 soil samples were collected from the five borings and submitted to the laboratory for PCB analyses.
- Preliminary laboratory data, which was received on January 31, 2005, indicates that PCB concentrations of up to six milligrams per kilogram were detected in the soil samples collected from beneath the canopied area at the southeast corner of the building.

Based on the results of the additional soil sampling, GE plans to collect additional soil samples to further characterize the soil quality beneath the canopied area. GE will also be asking potential contractors to provide revised pricing for removal of the materials identified beneath the canopied area prior to awarding a contract for the remedial work. We will provide a date for the start of the fieldwork after GE awards a contract for the remedial work.

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URS will continue to submit monthly status reports to the USEPA and NMED for this project. More detailed information or copies of daily reports, inspection reports, laboratory/monitoring data, etc., are available for review at any time upon request by either the USEPA or NMED. Please contact either Tom Antonoff of GE at (518) 385-9931 or the undersigned at (518) 688-0015 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this information.

Very truly yours,

URS Corporation



Don Porterfield, P.E.
Project Director

cc: Tom Antonoff, GE – Schenectady, New York
John Kieling – NM Environment Department
Carolyn Cooper – NM Environment Department
Clay Kilmer, URS - Albuquerque