

JUL 19 1995

Mr. Joseph C. Vozella
Assistant Area Manager
Office of Environment and Projects
Los Alamos Area Office
U.S. Department of Energy
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Dear Mr. Vozella:

This letter transmits the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 response for notices, reports, and deliverables submitted to us by the Department of Energy (DOE) Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Federal Facility Compliance Agreement (FFCA) issued March 15, 1994. This letter satisfies the requirements of Section IX of the RCRA FFCA - Submittal, Review, and Approval of Deliverables.

The following items were received and reviewed:

- IFLL 100
- IFLL 200
- STRU 100
- WM 100
- WM 200
- HLL 100
- HLL 200
- OSS 100
- OSS 200
- CAI 100
- ATS 100
- HW 100
- HW 200
- HW 300
- HW 400
- LD 100
- GAS 100
- AR 100 (first report & Fiscal Year 1994)

Comments for each item will be outlined individually in the following paragraphs.

bcc: J. Dougherty (6H-CS)
M. Barra (6C-M)

6H-CS:J.Dougherty:06/01/95;REV.07/07/95:F:DELIVRBLE.LTR

File: Enforcement
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6H-CS
SCHULTES

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GLOVER~~

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GREENEY~~

J. Vozella for



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Permit-FFCO

IFLL 100 - Preconceptual study to identify required interim Low Level Mixed Waste (LLMW) storage.

This Report is acceptable, provided that you address the following comments.

TA-54, Area G

Restrictions should be placed on Building 49 to keep liquid hazardous waste from being stored there unless the asphalt floor is sealed with a coating which would be chemically compatible with and impervious to any liquid waste which is proposed for storage; e.g., epoxy.

Sections 3.3 through 3.5 on pages 11 and 12 should indicate that: (1) fire protection, detection, suppression, and alarm methods (indicate the methods) most compatible with waste and site characteristics have been or shall be selected and installed; (2) *No Smoking* signs will be placed in accordance with 40 CFR 264.17(a).

The Security section, on page 7, should be revisited to insure that warning signs include languages which would be predominant in the surrounding Native American communities (e.g., Tewa, Towa, or Keresan).

Aisle space should be revisited to insure that when the *...two person boom lift...* is in use for inspection, aisle space is still adequate for *...the unobstructed movement of personnel, fire protection equipment, spill control equipment, and decontamination equipment...* around the lift should the lift be disabled during use.

TA-54 Area L

Due to the nature of the hazardous wastes currently stored at the Asphalt Pad - liquid solvents and corrosives - and their potential to penetrate and/or solvate asphalt, the pad should be sealed with a chemically impervious coating compatible to the wastes being stored.

Page 16 should indicate that fire protection, detection, suppression, and alarm methods (indicate the methods) most compatible with waste and site characteristics have been or shall be selected and installed.

Insure that when the *...forklift...* is in use, aisle space is still adequate for *...the unobstructed movement of personnel, fire protection equipment, spill control equipment, and decontamination equipment...* around the forklift should it be disabled during use.

IFLL 200 - Schedule for upgrades to interim status LLMW storage facilities.

This deliverable is acceptable. There are no comments.

STRU 100 - Preconceptual study to identify short and long-term storage of Transuranic Mixed Waste (TRU).

This report is acceptable. There are no comments.

WM 100 - Waste minimization plan covering mixed and hazardous waste.

This Report is acceptable. Please see comments for WM 200, next.

WM 200 - Land Disposal Restrictions (LDR) waste minimization work plan.

This deliverable is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments. (Also see comments for AR 100, below.)

Although the progress of the waste minimization program at LANL should be presented in the Annual Report, it is important to present at least an outline of the goals LANL expects to achieve through this program. For example, what kind of cost savings is LANL trying to achieve? What percentage reduction in generation of mixed and/or hazardous wastes is expected? What are the goals for recycling versus disposal of hazardous or mixed wastes?

The goals of the program should be clearly stated "up front"; progress can then be more easily ascertained in the annual reports. Future WM 200's shall include this information.

HLL 100 - LLMW characterization plan.

This deliverable is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments.

Appendix A-3, 2.0, should reference all applicable RCRA training requirements.

Appendix B-1, I., does not indicate whether or not the actual generator has an opportunity to review the forms

generated during the interview process to insure the accuracy of the information. Please elaborate on this point.

Appendix G-1, I., states that "It is unlikely that the team will need to enter any drum storage areas. If they do, certain requirements apply." What are these requirements? If they are important, they should be outlined here, or readily referenced.

Table G-1 should indicate all health and safety requirements (shown below) or be retitled to show these requirements are in addition to existing requirements. An example would be for the first line, Specific Area G:

<u>Training</u>	<u>Medical Requirements</u>
Low-Level radiation worker training	Hazardous Waste Site worker baseline examination
Hazardous Waste Site worker training compliant with 29 CFR 1910.120	Hazardous Waste Site worker annual examination

HLL 200 - LLMW treatment prioritization plan.

This deliverable is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments.

On page 4, 3.0, Radionuclide Risk, the risk to human health from breached containers is assumed to be primarily from inhalation of airborne radionuclides. This is a highly conservative assumption and may needlessly overestimate actual risk.

The Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI) will probably not be selected as an on-site treatment technology. We request that you amend HLL 200 to reflect the probability that the CAI may not become operational, and detail the affects this change will have on the overall prioritization schedule and the implementation strategy. These affects should also be outlined in future Annual Reports.

Prioritization of wastes was scheduled for completion by March 1995. Has this goal been achieved? If it has, the ranking/prioritization should be detailed in the next Annual Report along with the treatment schedule.

OSS 100 - Feasibility of off-site treatment of LLMW.

This Report is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments. (Please also see comments for OSS 200, next.)

It is not necessary to include copies of operating permit parameters for facilities identified for off-site treatment of LLMW.

OSS 200 - Action plan for off-site treatment of LLMW.

This Deliverable is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments.

There are many commercial facilities capable of treating LLMW. Several are identified in the recently submitted Proposed Site Treatment Plan for LANL. However, this installment mentions only Diversified Scientific Services, Inc. (DSSI) and Envirocare, Inc. Future installments of OSS 200 shall list *all potentially acceptable facilities*, and state the reasons why LANL does not find them acceptable.

It appears that some of the difficulty with finding suitable off-site treatment stems from internal problems at LANL or DOE. What are these problems, and how is LANL resolving them? Given the current shortage of suitable on-site storage and treatment facilities, it would make sense for LANL to aggressively seek outside sources for help.

Future installments of OSS 200 shall address more fully the internal impediments to finding off-site treatment and how DOE/LANL is overcoming these obstacles.

On page 3, fourth paragraph, it is stated that environmental restoration soil wastes are not subject to the FFCA. This is incorrect. All mixed wastes, including restoration wastes, which are exhumed and become actively managed - for analysis, and subsequent transport, treatment, or storage - become subject to the requirements of the FFCA. (Please see Section V. - Covered Matters, of the RCRA FFCA.)

CAI 100 - Notice of staffing for the Controlled Air Incinerator (CAI).

This Notice is acceptable. There are no comments.

ATS 100 - Program management plan for generic skid design.

This Deliverable is acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments.

The Proposed Site Treatment Plans have probably changed the overall skid development strategy at LANL. If these changes have impacted this Deliverable, it should be amended to reflect them. The amendment should describe the affect on the schedule originally envisioned for LANL and any benefits or drawbacks anticipated because of the new strategy. If needed, HLL 200 should also be amended. In addition, AR 100 should reflect schedule changes as well as any changes in the order of skid development.

HW 100 - Notice of completion of preliminary design report for the Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility (HWTF).

This Notice is acceptable. There are no, comments.

HW 200 - Notice of definitive design for the HWTF.

This Notice is acceptable. There are no comments.

HW 300 - Notice of submittal of RCRA Part B mixed waste permit.

This Notice is acceptable. There are no comments.

HW 400 - Schedule of timelines for construction of the HWTF.

This Deliverable is acceptable. There are no comments.

LD 100 - Start up of lead decontamination trailer.

This Notice is acceptable. LD 200 - Notice of complete treatment of applicable LLMW, shall be due October 14, 1995. Please include a status report on the progress of this project in the Annual Report.

AR 100 (first and annual reports) - Annual Report.

These reports are acceptable; however, we request that you address the following comments.

Waste minimization for mixed and hazardous waste.

The tables in Appendix C for pollution prevention accomplishments are helpful; however, further information needs to be provided in order to align them with the Waste Minimization National Plan released by EPA in November 1994.

Future Annual Reports shall present tables which follow the examples set forth in Appendix B of the Waste Minimization National Plan. In addition to the information presented in the AR 100 Appendix C tables, please include the following: (1) yearly comparisons of usage of the materials presented; e.g., 1993, 1994, 1995 usage; (2) overall percentage reduction of the materials used or disposed; (3) the annual savings realized by the reduction in use or recycling of the material.

These additions will not only complement the goal-setting recommendations made for the WM 200 deliverables, but also allow immediate measurements of success in achieving these goals.

Other useful measures could include annual comparisons of Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) data and/or data collected pursuant to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act.

GAS 100 - Gas cylinder work-off plan.

This Deliverable is acceptable. There are no comments.

Please address the preceding comments in a letter and/or include your responses in upcoming deliverables and reports as appropriate.

We appreciate your timely submittals and cooperation.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please call Dr. Joel Dougherty of my RCRA Enforcement staff at (214) 665-2281.

Sincerely yours,

Mark W. Potts, P.E., Chief
ALONM Section
RCRA Enforcement Branch
Hazardous Waste Management Division

cc: Mr. Benito Garcia
New Mexico Environment Department