

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

Albuquerque Operations Office

DATE: NOV 22 1993
REPLY TO: ERPO:KB:regmtg.mem
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT: Monthly Status Meeting Notes

TO: T. J. Taylor, Environmental Restoration Program Manager, ES&H, LAAO
J. E. Gould, Environmental Scientist, ESH&CB, KAO

The Monthly Status Meeting for New Mexico National Laboratories was held on November 4, 1993, in Los Alamos, New Mexico. Attached are notes from the November meeting. They are lengthy, but please try to read over them for accuracy especially with regard to action items agreed to. At the January meeting any necessary corrections can be made.

The next scheduled meeting is: January 6, 1993, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, via teleconference with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Dallas, Texas. The meeting will be held from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Please send agenda items for the January Monthly Meeting by December 27, 1993. This will allow time for coordination of items between the Laboratories, DOE, EPA, and the New Mexico Environment Department.

If you have any comments on the meeting notes, schedule, meeting times, or anything else regarding the New Mexico National Laboratories Monthly Status Meeting, please call Kelly Bitner at FTS (505) 845-4606.



Karen L. Boardman
Branch Chief
Laboratory ER Projects Branch
Environmental Restoration Project Office

Attachment

cc w/attachment:
W. F. Spurgeon, EM-452, HQ
R. Harris, EM-452, HQ
K. A. Carlson, KAO
G. K. Laskar, KAO
T. E. Blejwas, Org. 7500, SNL/NM
W. B. Cox, Org. 7581, SNL/NM



12455



Addressees

3

NOV 22 1993

cc w/attachment:

S. Alexander

Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

525 Camino de los Marquez

Santa Fe, NM 87502

M. du Mond

New Mexico Environment Department

KAFB Building 20245 Cubicle 101-AB

F & 4th Streets SE (W of Fire Station)

Albuquerque, NM 87115

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- ★ No changes or additions were made to the previous month's meeting notes.
- ★ The next meeting was set for Thursday, January 6, 1993, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at 9:00 am. Will look into video teleconferencing for those in Dallas, Texas.

LANL PERMIT:

- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Received the request for an extension of permit comment period on Friday, October 29, 1993; approval should go out this week. Public notice should go out and the EPA needs to know when it is noticed so that they can keep track of the 30 day comment period. To date, EPA has not received any comments from the public and only one from the Lab. LANL needs to get their act together to avoid future problems experienced in this go-around.
- ★ T. Taylor (DOE/LAAO) - asked when Barbara wants to see the notice? B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Monday or Tuesday of next week. S. Slaten (DOE/LAAO) will coordinate on the extension notice.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) provided a handout which showed which SWMUs will be addressed in OUs with multiple work plans, and which years those work plans are planned for. Only two OUs (1082 and 1114) will have multiple work plans and they are scheduled for finish in 1995 and 1994, respectively.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - asked if all the SWMUs on the handout were added to the permit in this modification? B. Vocke (LANL) - All SWMUs have been added to the permit. The schedule for these are in the permit modification. NFAs and the schedules adjusted to budget numbers through the prioritization process will be in the next permit modification request in February/March.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - Provided a draft that explains the reasons for the schedule slips due to funding constraints at TA-21. Essentially, only half of the requested funds in FY92 and FY93 were available, so half the work scheduled in the FY991 NOD response was pushed into FY94. However, this may change during the prioritization process. This draft gives a perspective of what has happened in regards to slippages and what will happen in 1994. B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Requested that no later than November 30, 1993 a letter must be provided that describes the schedule slips due to decreased funding for all OUs that have had slips. Additionally, time frames will be set from now on to prevent anything slipping through the cracks.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - Voluntary Corrective Actions (VCA) - Regarding the mercury SWMU - discussion is continuing with the State and additional testing is being done. Hope to get approval next week to start the removal. The additional testing is being done because there are concerns regarding composited samples that exceeded the TCLP. The waste is a mixed waste. B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) indicated that receiving the data in the Quarterly

Report is adequate, but would like the data from the October sampling sent separately as soon as possible.

- ★ Guaje Cemetery - B. Vocke (LANL) - Continuing to move forward in preparation of implementing the VCA plan submitted to EPA. However, based on a conference call, they are waiting to get a response on the lead clean-up level proposed. B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - This VCA is different from the mercury VCA, because it is not a complete removal and there is treatment proposed. Looking at final remedy, treatment on site and not losing all EPA is concerned that there be public participation as soon as possible and get their input as this will be a residential area. Also recognize that DOE/LANL are working at risk. Internally, EPA is working on policies for VCAs. While EPA is encouraging them, they are concerned that there will not be adequate public involvement.

SNL/NM PERMIT STATUS AND WORK PLAN STATUS:

- ★ W. Cox (SNL/NM) - Introduced new Deputy Project Manager. N. Morlock received the letter on deliverables. Permit status at this time - the permit is alive and well. Deliverables schedules are November 15 - AABP; November 26 - Waste Minimization/Certification Program; December 15 - SWMU list. Would like to schedule a meeting in Dallas, Texas, regarding OUs. Quarterly report is due on December 26, 1993, the Program Implementation Plan will be accelerated up to December. January 2, 1994, response for the LWDS is due.
- ★ Work Plan - Deliverable status - the current schedule is somewhat dependent on 1994 budget; will get it out when set. October 1994 is the next work plan (TA-2) (draft) due to the EPA. However, the schedule for submittal of work plans is staggered. There will be a tour on December 2, 1993 of TA-2.

STATUS OF WORK STATIONS:

- ★ W. Cox (SNL/NM) - Have received the work station for the AIP. Will be delivering as soon as the transfer paperwork is received and will come over and set it up. AIP's actual responsibility to get line to the LAN system. EPA connection to New Mexico - not really resolved; Dick Thomas has been talking with Nancy Morlock to find out if EPA has Oracle so that tapes can be sent every two - three weeks. Otherwise the cost is about \$6,000/month for a direct line.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - The Synchronize calendar was uploaded and ready to ship out. For data access, it will most likely be via tapes similar to SNL/NM. New Mexico AIP access - US West needs to tie into their area in White Rock. LANL will set up the hardware. B. Swanton (NMED/AIP) asked how the AIP could get something plotted. T. Taylor (DOE/LAEO) said that the requests for plots should go directly to FIMAD. FIMAD should log the time spent plotting AIP requests to make sure it does not become significant.

TECHNICAL UPDATE ON DEEP DRILLING AT LANL:

- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - Deep drilling was done at TA-21, TA-33, TA-54, TA-49, and TA-48. At TA-21 one borehole to 675 ft in DP Canyon was

completed this fall. The hole did encounter some moisture, but no perched aquifer. Tritium was encountered in the borehole. Another hole is being drilled in Los Alamos Canyon. Ground water was encountered as expected in the alluvial aquifer. They will be installing casing to prevent migration of contamination below the alluvial aquifer. At TA-33 - three (3) holes have been drilled. Tritium encountered at depth at low levels. Things are going well. AT TA-49 deep drilling is just beginning . At TA-54 there has been quite a bit of drilling, but no water or unexpected contaminants have been found. B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) said that EPA will be splitting samples at TA-49 and TA-54. EPA's contractor has coordinated the sample splitting with the OUPLs.

- ★ T. Taylor (DOE/LAAO) - Will put together a fact sheet with more detail of each area and send to EPA and NMED.

VOLUNTARY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- ★ W. Spurgeon (DOE-HQ/EM-452) - Top management concerned with showing results to Congress. A strong push to get down what we can do. Political problem with Congress and results. It is prudent to show Congress on-the-ground results. This can be done in the area of VCAs. Hazardous component - risk components for decision making. It is important to work with Regulators at all levels on how the budgets can be spent to produce results.
- ★ W. Spurgeon (DOE-HQ/EM-452) - stated that 8 x 10 glossies of dirt being moved is an accomplishment, but not an administrative decisions to get rid of 15 NFAs. B. Swanton (NMED/AIP) said that NFAs do show progress and results. W. Spurgeon (DOE-HQ/EM-452) - Agreed, but Congress does not consider them as "results". Would encourage VCAs.
- ★ T. Taylor (DOE/LAAO) - Interested in something quarterly to show what we have done? Sales brochures with 8 x 10 glossies? S. Slaten (DOE/LAAO) - New chapter to the quarterly progress report? W. Spurgeon (DOE-HQ/EM-452) - Land turnovers from VCA - good results prospect. Results are good program builders.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - Need to identify VCAs earlier so EPA is aware of them. T. Taylor (DOE/LAAO) - Small firing range was an excellent VCA. Bruce - Good example for future VCAs/NFAs to follow.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Will always want to see the verification plan before the VCA is done. K. Bitner (DOE-AL/ERPO) - Offered to go through the outline with B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) for information purposes. B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Not necessary, will go back to Region and discuss.
- ★ W. Cox (SNL/NM) made the point that part of the VCA is the characterization, and SNL/NM has some potential pilot techniques. Request that the State and EPA review these techniques and hopefully apply some of them in the future in characterizing VCAs (EM-50 proposal).
- ★ B. Swanton (NMED/AIP) said that the TIE workshop will be in Denver, Colorado to inform Regulating Community about future technologies. Lack of funding for travel is preventing many areas from learning new technologies. S. Slaten (DOE/LAAO) - Will look for funding to see if DOE can help some areas with their travel

costs.W. Spurgeon (DOE-HQ/EM-452) - Will talk to some people and see if EM-60 can help with the funding.

TECHNICAL ASSUMPTIONS:

- ★ W. Cox (SNL/NM) - Developing a technical assumptions plan agreement. The framework was issued to the staff to look at. Staff has gotten updates also. Sandia PIP up 95% - consistent with technical assumptions. The third draft of PIP is being retrofited to fit the technical assumptions.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) - Los Alamos has issued technical assumptions for guidance. VCA flow has also been distributed.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - EPA had only a few risk assessment comments. B. Vocke (LANL) stated that a response was being prepared and would be delivered within the 30 day period.
- ★ B. Vocke (LANL) (DOE/LANL)/K. Bitner (DOE-AL/ERPO) (DOE-AL/ERPO)/S. Slaten (DOE/LAAO) (DOE/LAAO) - The most important item in the technical assumptions for the near future is to get public knowledge and acceptance of the proposed future use scenarios so that residential use does not have to be assumed for every site. To this end, a subplan for public involvement is being identified that will identify stakeholders, how to reach them, and a metric to measure how well they were reached. Would like EPA and State to look at the plan to get some feedback.
- ★ S. Alexander (NMED) asked whether a SSAB has been established for LANL that would be involved in the future use issue. S. Slaten (DOE/LAAO) said that no site-specific advisory board (SSAB) has been established, and the process is long enough that there won't be one in time to deal with this issue. When an SSAB is established, they will be used to help make these decisions. It would be a lot easier if an SSAB was already established, because then we wouldn't have to figure out how to do the outreach. At this time, the best we can do is a pro-active expanded public involvement. W. Cox (SNL/NM) - stated that SNL/NM is not looking at a similar plan at this time, due to the large number of agencies that would have to be contacted and the tenant/landlord relationship at Kirtland Air Force Base.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - asked if the IWP has priority for review over the work plans. Consensus was reached that the IWP and the PIP at SNL/NM should have the higher priority.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) asked when she would receive the Quarterly Report from LANL? B. Vocke (LANL) - Week after next.

BUDGETS, BASELINES, PRIORITIZATION, PERMITS:

- ★ K. Bitner (DOE-AL/ERPO) - Site ranking has been expanded and glorified with new title. Principal criteria - other qualitative criteria. We now have most answers for the SNL and Los Alamos and new are trying to develop a priority. Then what the funding levels would be. The next step is the Priority Review Team. The team will look at all the priorities and see if all agree on how the funding is to be spent.

- ★ November 17, 18, 19, 1993, meeting days set. This information will then go to the public meetings in December, 1993. The public can then also list any disagreements with the Mod Permit Hearing.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - Will they review all principal criteria that was used? K. Bitner (DOE-AL/ERPO) - Yes, we will attach it.
- ★ B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - 31% cut in travel budget and will probably go up to a 40% cut for the EPA. Teleconferencing will be more appropriate. B. Swanton (NMED/AIP) suggested that the Monthly Meetings could be done by teleconferencing.
- ★ W. Cox (SNL/NM) - Is the EPA ready to look at a CAMU? B. Driscoll (EPA/REG 6) - If it is ready go ahead and submit it. W. Cox (SNL/NM) - Should be ready at the earliest on December 1, 1993.
- ★ Data validation - SNL/NM and LANL will reach a consensus, and will provide it to NMED and EPA to review.

New Mexico National Lakes
 Monthly States Meeting
 Los Alamos NM
 11/4/93

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
Kelly Bitner	DOE/AL/ERPO	505 845-4606	845-423
WILLIAM F. SPURGEON	DOE/HA/EM-452	301-903-8187	903-813
John Gould	DOE/KAO	505/845-6089	845-47
Bob Vocke	LANL	505/667-0808	665-47
Ted Taylor	DOE-LNAO	505-665-7203	665-47
COURT FESMIRE	DOE/LAEO	505-665-4718	"
Pat	DOE/LAEO	505-667-3504	1
BRUCE SWANTON	NMED A/P	672-0447	827-4361
Steve Slater	DOE/LAEO	665-5050	665-450
Patricia Shanley	LANL/EM-8/ATK	667-0663	
ETHAN MERRILL	DOE/HA/EM452	301-903-8185	301-903-8
Ware Hartwell	LANL ER/wm	667-2211	665-8190
BARBARA DOREMUS	SNL/ER	848-0312	848-0417
WARREN COX	SNL/ER	848-0411	848-0417
Barbara Driscoll	EPA - Reg 6	214-655-7441	214-655-6460
Nancy Morlock	EPA - Reg. 6	214-655-6650	214-655-6460
DAVID HICKENS	LANL-EM-13	665-4230	-
Steve Alexander			827-
Barbara Hoditschek	NMED/RCRA Permits	827-4308	1

Addressees

2

NOV 22 1993

cc w/attachment:

R. W. Vocke, ER/EM-13, MS M992, LANL
J. P. Shipley, Jr., EE-AETO MS F641, LANL
K. A. Bitner, ERPO, AL
J. F. Levings, ERPO, AL

B. Driscoll
RCRA Permits Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
1445 Ross Ave
Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

N. Morlock
RCRA Permits Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
1445 Ross Ave
Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

K. Sisneros
Water and Waste Management Division
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87503

N. Weber
DOE Oversight and Monitoring
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87503

B. Swanton
DOE Oversight and Monitoring, LANL
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87503

B. Hoditschek
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
525 Camino de los Marquez
Santa Fe, NM 87502

RED LANL 1974