

Handwritten initials: HSWA, H5004, II

COPY

Handwritten signatures: Ron K, Barton



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

SEP 20 1995

Handwritten signatures: Terri, Susan, Bob, Steve P.

Handwritten text: HSWA LANL GEN/MISC/G

Mr. Theodore J. Taylor
Program Manager
Department of Energy
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Re: PCB Spill Cleanup Policy
Los Alamos National Laboratory (NM0890010515)

Dear Mr. Taylor:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently received several inquiries from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) requesting clarification of EPA Region 6 policy on PCB cleanup levels. EPA has already provided comments in a letter dated May 8, 1995, on LANL's Draft Guidance for Evaluation and Cleanup of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's). In addition, the following information was provided by Region 6 TSCA personnel.

Subpart G, PCB Spill Cleanup Policy found at 40 CFR Part 761.120 dated July 1, 1993, and specifically 761.120(d)(2) found on page 437 states: "For the spill situations in paragraphs (d)(2)(i) through (vi) of this section, the responsible party shall decontaminate the spill in accordance with site-specific requirements established by the EPA regional offices." This includes spills that result in the direct contamination of surface waters (surface waters include, but are not limited to, "waters of the United States" as defined in Part 122 of this chapter, ponds, lagoons, wetlands, and storage reservoirs).

In addition, spills which occurred before the effective date of the PCB Spill Cleanup Policy (May 4, 1987) are to be decontaminated to requirements established at the discretion of EPA, usually through the regional offices. Therefore, site-specific requirements established by EPA Region 6 PCB Program for cleanup involving surface waters is less than 1 ppm, and for the decontamination level for water is 0.5 ppb.

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If you should have any questions or need additional assistance, please feel free to contact Ms. Barbara Driscoll of my staff at (214) 665-7441.

Sincerely,


for David Neleigh, Chief
RCRA New Mexico - Federal
Facilities Section

cc: Mr. Benito Garcia ✓
New Mexico Environment Department
Mr. Jorg Jansen
Los Alamos National Laboratory, MS M992