



General
 State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
DOE OVERSIGHT BUREAU
 P.O. Box 1663, MS/J-993
 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545



GARY JOHNSON
 GOVERNOR

MARK E. WEIDLER
 SECRETARY

Jane Jones
 Golder Federal Services
 MS - M327
 Los Alamos, NM 877545

February 13, 1998

Dear Ms. Jones

Re: Assessment of PCB analytical data obtained from the July, 1996, collection of aquatic insects, in the Upper Sandia Canyon wetlands.

This is in response to your request for information relating to DOE Oversight Bureau PCB data pertaining to Odonata (dragonflies & damselflies) collected during the summer of 1996 from the Upper Sandia Canyon wetlands.

Adult Odonata (Zygoptera & Anisoptera) were sampled using a hand held butterfly net from July 29 - 30, 1996. The Sandia Canyon watercourse was sampled from Potential Release Site 3-056(c) downstream to the culvert below Los Alamos County Landfill rubble pile and from the culvert opening at the head of the wetlands throughout the Sandia wetlands. A high percentage of insects were collected at the culvert opening at the head of the wetlands. All insects were composited in the field, held on ice @ 4°C until returning to lab, where they were sorted to suborder [Zygoptera (~35), Anisoptera (7)] and frozen. Samples were weighed and shipped on ice to Paragon Analytics, Inc.. Samples were analyzed for seven PCB Aroclors. The case narrative, results, and QA/QC provided by Paragon Analytics, Inc., is included as an attachment to this memo.

The detection limits did not meet the data quality objective of 100 µg/kg PCB. This was due to the small sample weight resulting from the sorting of the sample into suborders. I have discussed this issue with Lance Steer, of Paragon Analytics Inc., and he recommends a minimum of 10 grams (preferably more - up to 30 grams) of insect sample be supplied to the lab for PCB analysis to ensure an adequate data reporting limit of 100 µg/kg for PCB Aroclors.

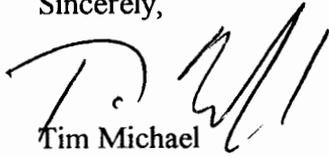


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LAWL / main file to ES Data - DOE CB / ~~AS~~ SW

If you have any further questions, please call Ralph Ford-Schmid at 827-1536.

Sincerely,



Tim Michael
Program Manager
Technical Support Section
DOE Oversight Bureau

TM/rf-s

Enclosures

cc:

w/o enclosures

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