

Permit

9/7/1984

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION
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DENISE FORT, DIRECTOR

Comments on the Closure Plan for S-Site Thermal Treatment (of Explosives and Small Quantities of Reactive Wastes)

1. Section 206.C.2.b.(2) requires facilities under interim status to close in a manner that "controls, minimizes, or eliminates...post-closure escape of...hazardous waste constituents, leachate, contaminated rainfall, or waste decomposition products to the ground or surface waters or to the atmosphere. Section 206.C.11.e. requires the owner of a thermal treatment facility to "remove all...hazardous waste residues (including, but not limited to, ash)..." It is not clear that the sampling and analysis described in this plan can accomplish these objectives. In particular:

a. The sand at the high explosive (HE) burning area should be analyzed for the hazardous waste constituents of Part 201, Appendix III or some subset of these constituents appropriate to the materials burned, in addition to analysis for hazardous characteristics. The same should be done at the detonation area, based on records of wastes detonated there.

b. The 100ft sampling grid at the HE detonation area may be too coarse. The EID does not yet have enough information on the S-Site thermal treatment to comment further on this.

2. There are no maps, plans, discussion, or drawings in this plan which describe the areas used, their size, any equipment involved (discussion is given but no dimensions or drawings are given), topography and drainage, vegetation, soils, surrounding land use and character, and volumes and kinds of waste disposed.

3. The plan is marked "ROUGH DRAFT", and so does not bind LANL to any closure activities. This is not acceptable.

4. There is no specified year of closure.

5. There is no mention of inspection(s) by the certifying party.

6. The certificate of closure goes to the EID Director, not to the EPA Regional Administrator.

7. Given the possible contingencies that may arise in sampling and analysis, a more detailed schedule of closure is required.

8. The EID may have further comments when more detailed submittals are made.



Comments on S-Site Closure, Continued

4. There is no specified year of closure. **2100 is that year.**
5. There is no mention of inspection(s) by the certifying party.. **Though there is no formal mention of inspections in the HWMR-2, such inspections are implicit in the certification requirements.**
6. The certificate of closure goes to the EID Director, not to the EPA Regional Administrator. **LANL will correct this. The "independent" licensed engineer referred to in the HWMR-2 means a licensed consulting engineer who is not a salaried employee of LANL or DOE. If it is found that some activities at S-site involve land disposal, closure review for these activities will be by the EPA Regional Administrator, until RCRA Final Authorization is granted to EID.**
7. Given the possible contingencies that may arise in sampling and analysis, a more detailed schedule of closure is required. **This means that the closure procedures may have to be modified based on sampling and analysis results, and this must be explicit in LANL's closure plan, which is due Dec. 1.**
8. The EID may have further comments when more detailed submittals are made.