

OFFICE MEMORANDUM 142

TO : Dean Meyer, Group Leader, H-1 DATE: April 21, 1971

FROM : John Enders, Leader, CMR BLDG. Monitoring Section, H-1

SUBJECT: SOLID RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1971

SYMBOL : H-1-CMR

This report covers disposal activities for the first three months for 1971. Information for the report was furnished by ENG-4, the Zia Refuse Dept., Supply and Property Dept., ENG-5, and LA Notebooks #15953 and #12442.

Some of the data presented is based on estimates and this should be kept in mind if any conclusions are to be drawn from the report.

Beta-Gamma Waste Disposal:

Delivery of this type of material was made on a routine basis this quarter. A total of 11 shafts were used as it now requires more shafts in an effort to segregate material. In February, the Zia Roads Section delivered about 800 gallons of asphalt to shaft #39 in order to seal several tritium contaminated items.

Low Level Waste Disposal:

1. One out-of-town shipment was received on 3/11. The material was off-loaded and buried without incident.
2. The Zia Roads Section covered exposed trash in pit #6 during the week of 3/1 to 3/7.
3. A report was submitted to the Group Office, in February, that estimated expenditures connected with solid radioactive waste disposal.
4. A request has been made to ENG-4 to have five new disposal pits dug. The new pits would be used to segregate waste disposal.
5. An unsuccessful recovery operation was made in pit #6 on 3/15 and 3/16. The operation was halted when it was decided the item was buried too deep.
6. During the above operation, a front-end loader became contaminated when it accidentally broke open a 55 gal. drum filled with sludge from TA-50. The loader was successfully cleaned by the H-1 Decontamination Crew and released to the Zia Company.



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Low Level Waste Disposal Cont.:

7. While attempting to unload waste material into the excavated hole in pit #6 on 3/29, made during the operation mentioned in item #5, a strong gust of wind blew across the hole (containing the broken sludge drum) and carried highly contaminated dust onto the Dumpster truck and container. The truck was taken to TA-50 for attempted cleaning but because of the high alpha level of contamination, the truck was taken to Area G, Pit #5, for storage until it could be cleaned at Area G.

Another Dumpster truck and container were also contaminated in Pit #6 while the container was being unloaded. It was then determined that the east half of pit #6 was contaminated from the dried sludge that had been blown about by the wind. An emergency cover order was requested and the east half of pit #6 as well as the exposed sludge was covered by the Zia Roads Section on 3/31 and 4/1/71.

8. A complete survey of Area G was made on 4/7 by CMR BLDG. Section personnel. The results of the survey were negative and the booties worn by the men were also free of contamination.
9. A trailer has been transferred from SP-2 to H-1 and is now located at Area G. It will be used for storage of equipment. It is planned to transfer the old Point Weather trailer to the H-1 Decontamination Section for their use at Area G.
10. After the contaminated incident mentioned in item #7, it was obvious that H-1 Decontamination needed a decontamination pit at Area G. The Zia Roads Section dug this pit on 4/7 and 4/8/71.

<u>Volume Data:</u>		<u>Total Yd.³</u>
1. Small plastic bags	(1,553 x 0.037 yd. ³)	57
2. Large Plastic bags	(700 x 0.46 yd. ³)	322
3. Cardboard boxes	(4,891 x 0.087 yd. ³)	425
4. 55 gal. drums	(336 x 0.3 yd. ³)	101
5. Misc. scrap	(estimated)	<u>600</u>
TOTAL YD. ³		1,505

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<u>Disposal Costs:</u>	<u>TOTAL (\$)</u>
1. Small plastic bags (1,553 x \$.08)	124
2. Large plastic bags (700 x \$.24)	168
3. Cardboard boxes (4,891 x \$.20)	978
4. 55 gal. drums (336 x \$8.60)	2,889
5. Masking tape (500 rolls @ \$1.00/roll)	500
6. Zia Janitor Charge	7,850
7. H-1 Vehicles	240
8. H-1 Radios	166
9. Health Physics Surveyor	2,625
10. Protective clothing	50
11. Road & Ruin Excavation (Bal. as of 3/31/71 = \$3,798)	135
12. Zia Laborers (Estimated)	2,688
13. Zia Riggers (Estimated)	350
14. Cover exposed trash (Estimated)	3,024
15. Transport Dempster Dumpsters (2,814 miles @ \$1.1016 per mile)	3,100
16. Excavation of pit #6 (Balance as of 3/31/71 = \$4,326)	2,164
17. Fencing (Balance as of 3/31/71 - \$7,604)	218
18. Asphalt (800 gal., estimated)	<u>200</u>
TOTAL	\$27,469

John Enders
 John Enders *By SKH*

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xc: File