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Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY
memorandum

Earth and Environmental Sciences
Geoanalysis Group

EES-5
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

To/MS: Albert Dye, ESH-19, MS K490
From/MS: Janet Harry, EES-5, MS M992 g.H.
Phone/FAX: 7-1637/5-4747
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SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF STORAGE VESSEL FROM TA-8

In the Fall of 1994, an old 4 ft. by 4 ft. metal vessel located west of TA-8-2 was removed in support of the Environmental Restoration Project. This vessel is listed as potential release site (PRS) 8-005 and was being investigated as part of a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI). The vessel was an abandoned oven used for crystal growth experiments in the 1950s. Sample analysis from inside the vessel indicated the presence of naphthalene. Due to preliminary field investigations, it was determined that this vessel could be removed safely and possibly salvaged once hazardous constituents were removed. George Clines from JCI Asbestos Abatement confirmed the presence of asbestos in the form of a gasket and strap on the vessel. Field screening indicated that radiation and high explosives were not present in or on the vessel. Landlords of the technical area had no objections to the removal.

Joe Richardson from JCI JENV assisted in the removal of the vessel. Three tasks were involved. First, on September 20, 1994, approximately one cubic foot of solid naphthalene was removed from the vessel, placed in a suitable container, and disposed of by CST-7. Next, the JCI Asbestos Abatement crew removed an asbestos strap and gasket from the vessel and disposed of it in accordance with CST-7. Finally, on September 30, 1994, after all hazardous materials (naphthalene and asbestos) were removed, JCI's rigging crew transported the vessel to salvage.

Betty Harris and I inspected the ground where the vessel had been to look for evidence of a release. There were slight rust stains where the corners of the vessel had been at the south side. This would be expected because of the many years the vessel sat at this location unprotected from the elements. The soil where the vessel sat was hard, dry and rocky. Vegetation surrounding the site did not show evidence of ecological stress. A cord that had been under the vessel was inspected by JCI Asbestos Abatement and removed because it contained asbestos. At the salvage yard, Betty Harris and I had the vessel lifted so that we could look for cracks or holes on the underside of the vessel. None were found. In October 1994, the OU 1157 Field Team also inspected the site and took soil samples at the former location of the vessel.

I have paper work associated with this removal. If you need copies or additional information please let me know.

Cy:

G. Clines, JCI CPMB, MS A199
T. Glatzmaier, DDEES, MS M992
B. Harris, DX-16, MS M992
J. Richardson, JCI JENV, MS A199
C. Rofer, EES-1, MS D462
M. Shepherd, JCI SPRM, MS A199

EES-5 File, MS F665

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