Los Alamos National Laboratory

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION



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Date: February 7, 1996 Refer to: EM/ER:96-049

Ms. Barbara Driscoll NM Federal Facilities Section EPA, Region 6, 6PD-N 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202



SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON A NEWLY IDENTIFIED AOC

Dear Barbara:

In a letter you sent to us, which we received on November 7, 1995, you directed the Laboratory to provide additional information on a new potential solid waste management unit (SWMU) in TA-2. You requested the Lab to provide the information on the potential new unit within 90 days of receipt of the letter. The unit has been determined to be an area of concern (AOC) rather than a SWMU. By reviewing the information following, we believe you will agree this unit is an AOC and should not be added to the permit.

AOC C-2-001 Metal Nugget Site

A field investigation has taken place at this AOC. The metal nugget site is a pile of metal nuggets on the east side of TA-2 and near SWMU 2-009. The unit is approximately one square foot of steel nuggets on top of a mound of soil. Field screening was conducted. Radiological instruments which measure alphas, beta, and gamma noted no radiation above background. A photoionization detector was also used and no readings were recorded. The unit, based on field screening and visual inspection, does not warrant further investigation. We believe that this unit poses no threat to human health or the environment. Additional information supporting a No Further Action determination at the AOC are planned in the future. The information presented above will be incorporated in the RFI Reports for adjacent units.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (505) 667-0808 or Ted Taylor at (505) 665-7203.

Sincerely

Jorg Jansen, Program Manager Environmental Restoration Sincerely,

Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager Los Alamos Area Office

JJ/TT/em

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