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Los Alamos National Laboratory/University of California Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship (RRES) Remediation (R) Program, MS M992 Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Date: May 22, 2003 Refer to: ER2003-0362

Mr. John Young, Corrective Action Project Leader Permits Management Program NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East Building 1 Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303



SUBJECT: SAMPLING NOTIFICATION

Dear Mr. Young:

During the week of June 2, 2003, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship-Remediation (RRES-R) Program is planning to collect concrete samples at Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 03-033 at Technical Area (TA) 3. The samples will be collected from the concrete floor of a drain line raceway beneath the former printed-circuit shop located in the northwest corner of the Physics Building (Building 03-40) to determine if there is any potential contamination associated with the wastewater drain lines from the circuit shop. The former shop area and subbasement are being converted into useable office space and access to the raceway may be limited in the future.

SWMU 3-033 is described as the decommissioned liquid waste collection system for former printed-circuit shop located in the northwest corner of the Physics Building (Building 03-40, Room 161D). The system consisted of a 200-gallon transfer tank and two containment areas located adjacent to the northwest corner of Building 03-40. Secondary containment for the transfer tank was a below-grade, 6-ft-diameter corrugated metal culvert section coated with epoxy. The culvert section was embedded in gravel, and in 1986 the gravel base was upgraded to a concrete vault. This 8-ft-deep vault held the 200-gallon transfer tank and associated pumps and equipment. Liquid from the transfer tank was pumped through underground drain lines either into an 800-gallon tank, tuff tanks, or containers located above a bermed concrete sump for temporary storage pending transport and disposal. The plating rinse wastes contained trace amounts of nickel, copper, lead, silver, gold, tin, cyanides, ferric chloride, pyrophosphate solutions, fluoroborates, and hydrochloric acid. The printed-circuit shop ceased operations in January 1991, and the transfer tank and associated pumps were removed in October 1992; however, the drain lines in a raceway beneath the former shop floor remain in place. Both outside containment areas are covered to prevent runoff from entering containment structures.

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A Phase I Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) was implemented at this SWMU in 1994 to determine whether the storage and transfer of liquids or a vault overflow in 1988 released contaminants to the environment. Fourteen (14) samples were collected from six locations down gradient from the containment vault and on the three sides of the sump bordered by soil. The sump itself was not sampled due to Hantavirus health concerns. Treating the sump for Hantavirus would require introduction of a bleach solution, which would have introduced contaminants into the sample. The samples were field screened for organic chemicals and submitted for laboratory analysis of inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals, and radionuclides. Organic chemicals were not detected in field screening. Mercury and zinc were detected at concentrations above LANL-wide backgrounds but below screening action levels and no radionuclides were detected. The 1996 RFI report recommended no further action for SWMU 03-033. The SWMU has not been included in a Request for Permit Modification. Potential contaminants of concern for this SWMU include inorganic chemicals.

The RRES-R Project will verbally confirm and/or notify the New Mexico Environmental Department-HWB staff of any changes to the schedule. Results from the sampling will be presented a future RFI report. The sampling is summarized in the following table, which indicates the minimum number of samples to be collected:

Document	Location	Number of Samples	Sample Type	Analyses
 RFI Work Plan for OU 1114 (LA-UR-93- 1000) 	SWMU 03- 033 at TA- 3,	3	Concrete	- TAL metals - VOCs - SVOCs
 RFI Report for 53 Potential Release Sites in TAs-3, -59, 60- and –61, Field Unit 1 (LA-UR-96- 726) 	northwest corner of Bldg. 03- 40			

If you have any questions, please call Paula Bertino at (505) 665-2198.

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Roy Bohn Environmental Restoration Project Los Alamos National Laboratory



Mr. John Young ER2003-0362

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