

LANL HSWA 3/1082/16, 16-021(c)



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Date: January 11, 2001
Refer to: ER2001-0013

Mr. John Young, Corrective Action Project Leader
Permits Management Program
NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau
2044 A Galisteo
Santa Fe, NM 87502



SUBJECT: MODIFICATIONS TO SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

Dear Mr. Young:

The purpose of this letter is to propose modifications to the sampling activities at Potential Release Site (PRS) 16-021(c), the 260 Outfall, that are being conducted as part of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) and Corrective Measure Study (CMS). The proposed modifications were discussed at the 260 Outfall High Performing Team (HPT) meeting on December 4, 2000, and consist of reducing three of the RFI and CMS sampling activities. Below, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) identifies each sampling activity, delineates the document in which the sampling is prescribed, and describes the rationale for eliminating or modifying the sampling activity.

Activity	Document Location	Rationale
Bromide Tracer Sampling	Section 5.2.11.2.6, RFI Report for PRSs 16-003(k), 16-021(c) (LA-UR-96-3191)	Bromide tracer was deployed in the TA-16-260 outfall during April 1997. Bromide breakthrough was observed in the Canon de Valle springs within 6 months, but has not been observed again since the initial breakthrough. Additionally, the majority of the deployed potassium bromide was removed during the recent Interim Measure at the site. Thus, it is unlikely that a new bromide breakthrough will be observed. LANL proposes to eliminate this bromide tracer sampling.
Weekly checking of field parameters/ collection of weekly flow integrated samples	Section 6.3.3.3, CMS Plan for PRS 16-021(c) (LA-UR-98-3918)	Field parameters (temperature, pH, conductance) and flow integrated samples at springs are being collected weekly. Field parameters (temperature, pH, conductance, and water level) from alluvial wells are also being checked weekly. Both the springs and the alluvial wells are instrumented for continuous monitoring of most of these field parameters (all except pH). LANL proposes that field parameters from springs and alluvial wells be collected monthly and that flow integrated samples from springs be collected monthly (integrating flow from one week per month).
Laboratory sampling for uranium and extended HE (nitroglycerin) in water	Comments 4 & 5, RSI Response for RFI Report and CMS Plan for PRS 16-021(c) (LA-UR-98-4101)	Uranium and extended HE (nitroglycerin) are being analyzed in waters on each quarterly sampling round at all locations. As presented at the HPT meeting, no extended HE hits (except one suspicious value in the headwaters of Canon de Valle) and no uranium significantly above background values have been detected to date. LANL proposes that these analytes be eliminated from future sampling, or that their frequency be reduced to once per year.



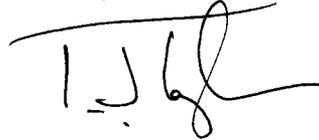
LANL would like to implement the modifications to the sampling activities in February 2001. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dave McInroy at (505) 667-0819 Gene Turner at (505) 667-5794

Sincerely,



Julie A. Canepa, Program Manager
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Environmental Restoration

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Taylor, Project Manager
Department of Energy
Los Alamos Area Office

JC/TT/NR/ev

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