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Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY

memorandum

Environmental Science and Waste Technology

Environmental Restoration Project
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

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Phone/FAX: 672-1361/667-5801
Symbol: ER2001-0706
Date: August 21, 2001

SUBJECT: TA-21 EAST ACID WASTE SYSTEM

Acid waste sump TA-21-223 (SWMU 21-011(B)), acid waste manhole TA-21-222 and acid waste manhole TA-21-221 were we built on contract AT (29-1) – 1785. The contractor was Cillessen Brothers. These structures were started 7/9/64 and completed 5/27/65 on Lab job 2920. The two manholes and the sump are connected by a 6" drain line and this acid waste sewer system is connected directly to building TA-21-155 at manhole 222, connected to building TA-21-152 at manhole 221 via sump 173(SWMU 21-022 (f)) and connected directly to building TA-21-209 at manhole 221. This acid waste sewer system flows by gravity to sump TA-21-223 where the influent is picked up by pumps and injected into a 3" force main that connects to the Waste Disposal Plant, TA-21-257. The sump, TA-21-223 and the two manholes TA-21-222 and 221 are shown on the location plan on drawing Eng-C42985, sheet C-1.

In 1976 the Acid Sewer Lift Station (sump TA-21-223) was modified by the Zia Company. A 5'-4" x 6'-8" shed type structure was built at ground level over the sump and the two pump motors with their electrical controls were relocated from inside the sump to positions inside the shed. The pumps and floats were left in place and the drive shafts between the pumps and motors and the float rods were extended. The pumps were also repiped to the force main and appropriate gate and check valves installed. See drawings Eng-C42985, sheets 1 and 2. About 1982, the pumps and motors were replaced with submersible type pumps and new control panels were installed on the wall of the shed.

Sumps TA-21-173, SWMU 21-022(f), is located about 13'-0" east of the northeast corner of building TA-21-152. It was constructed in 1945 at the same time that building TA-21-152 was built by the R.E. McKee Construction Company. The sump is of reinforced concrete construction and has a 2'-0" dia. X 5'-0" deep steel catch basin inside of it. This catch basin caught all of the industrial waste from the lab sinks in building TA-21-152. This industrial waste was then discharged through an overflow pipe near the top of the steel catch basin into a steel outlet pipe that extended to the waste pits at the Material Disposal Area – "U" (MDA-U). See drawings Eng. - C 2215 and Eng.- C 2216 for construction details and location. The outlet pipe from the sump to MDA-U is a 6" steel pipe screwed together in 5'-0" sections. The inside of the pipe is coated with "Jennite". The wood top to the sump has been replaced with some other substance that is now clad with sheetmetal. I have no recollection of the Zia Company removing the 6" steel outlet pipe between the sump TA-21-173 and the disposal pit MDA-U. I have talked to the "Facility Coordinators" at TA-21 East, Joe D. Hoisington and Joe Trujillo, and neither has any knowledge of the pipe being removed. I think that it is reasonable to assume that the pipeline is still in place.

Sumps TA-21-173 probably drained to MDA-U until sometime in 1965 when it was connected to manhole TA-21-221 after the Cillessen Brothers Construction Company completed its contract.

Mr. Hoesington stated that while building TA-21-152 is still active there is absolutely no water used and he sees no problems if the sump TA-21-173 is removed.

Also attached is my drawing No. TA-21-ER15 that shows the entire TA-21 East acid waste system including its terminus at building TA-21-265.

WCF/th

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