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ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

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HSWA LAAL 6EN/PERMIT
FUI, 00-1079

Mr. William Honker
Hazardous Waste and Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
1445 Ross Street, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

Date: August 3, 1995
Refer to: EM/ER:95-376

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF TWO NEW SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS (SWMUs) FUI-1

Dear Mr. Honker:

Two previously unknown SWMUs and one area of concern (AOC) have been identified at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (Laboratory). The units are identified as:

SWMUs

- Former Transformer Location: 32-003
- Building 3 Drainline and Outfall: 32-004 ~~1079~~

AOC

- Technical Area (TA) 61, Subsurface Petroleum Contamination: C-61-002 1114

The Laboratory is reporting these units as required by Module VIII of the facility's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit. Please find enclosed maps illustrating the location of these new units.

The Former Transformer Location, SWMU 32-003, and Former Building 3 Drainline and Outfall, SWMU 32-004, are located within the Laboratory facility boundary between the Los Alamos County Roads Division storage yard and the mesa edge in TA-32. Adjacent to the SWMUs is a canyon wall, which is the north wall of Los Alamos Canyon.

The electrical transformer was possibly removed from the Former Transformer Location after 1954 when the entire power line may have been removed as part of the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of the TA-32 buildings. Currently at the site, there is an irregular pile of wood approximately four feet by three feet and two feet high. The wooden pile apparently served as a platform for the transformer and was



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moved south approximately 20 feet from its original position when the transformer was removed. Sampling was conducted at this site in association with a septic drainline [SWMU 32-002(b)]. The samples collected were analyzed for volatiles, semivolatiles, metals, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs were detected at 1.5 and 4.5 parts per million (ppm). The Environmental Restoration (ER) Project intends to prepare a voluntary corrective action plan for this site which will require the removal of the wood and minor amounts of soil.

Former Building 3 Drainline and Outfall is located east of the former Building 3. Medical-related activities were conducted in Building 3 from 1944 to 1954 when all of TA-32 buildings were decontaminated and decommissioned in 1954. One septic tank associated with one of the decontaminated and decommissioned buildings in the former TA-32 building complex was removed in 1988 [SWMU 32-002(b)]. The drainline from Building 3 to the outfall, which is suspected to have discharged at the rim of the Los Alamos Canyon, may still be in place. Engineering drawings of Building 3 indicate the drainline and outfall received discharges from a laboratory. Located next to the laboratory was a vault containing a radiological source. The ER Project plans to determine if the piping is still present. Additionally, sampling will be conducted at the suspected outfall location. A sampling and analysis plan will be prepared. The location of the outfall will be based on engineering drawings, best field judgment, and aerial photography. Semi-volatile, metals, and radiological analyses will be conducted. If contamination is detected, a voluntary corrective action plan may be prepared.

The AOC, C-61-002, was discovered during a test of a drill rig prior to utilizing the rig at any potential release sites at the Laboratory. The test hole was located approximately 15 feet north of Building 16 in TA-61. The old building number for this structure is TA-3-236. During drilling an odor was noted and suspected petroleum contamination (e.g., diesel) was found at seven to eight feet below ground surface. Personnel interviews conducted after the drilling in early June 1995 indicate that the source of the diesel may be the previous road maintenance-support work performed in the area, which included the filling of fuel flare pots. Additional interviews will be conducted to obtain all available information on past operations at the site. A sample of the tuff was collected and the analysis indicates the presence of diesel (750 mg/kg). The Laboratory will investigate this unit at a timeframe determined by the site ranking system.

We believe that these units pose no immediate threat to human health or the environment. All activities at the SWMUs are planned to be completed by Spring 1996 and information collected will be incorporated in the RCRA facility investigation reports for adjacent units.

Mr. Honker
EM/ER:95-376

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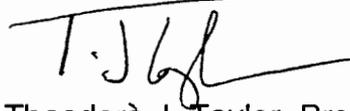
Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (505) 667-0808 or Ted Taylor at (505) 665-7203.

Sincerely,



Jorg Jansen, Project Manager
Environmental Restoration

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Taylor, Program Manager
Los Alamos Area Office

JJ/TT/bp

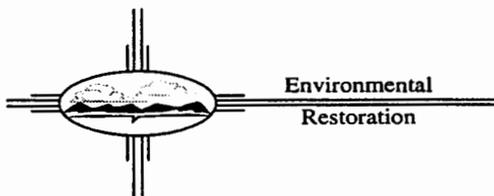
Enclosure: Maps

Cy (w/enc.):

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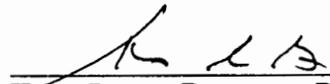
CERTIFICATION

I certify under penalty of law that these documents and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violation.

Document Title:

Notification Of Two New Solid Waste Management
Units (SWMUs)

Name:


Tom Baca, Program Director
Environmental Management
Los Alamos National Laboratory

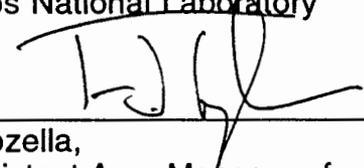
Date:

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or

Jorg Jansen, Project Manager
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Date:

8/2/95

or

Theodore J. Taylor
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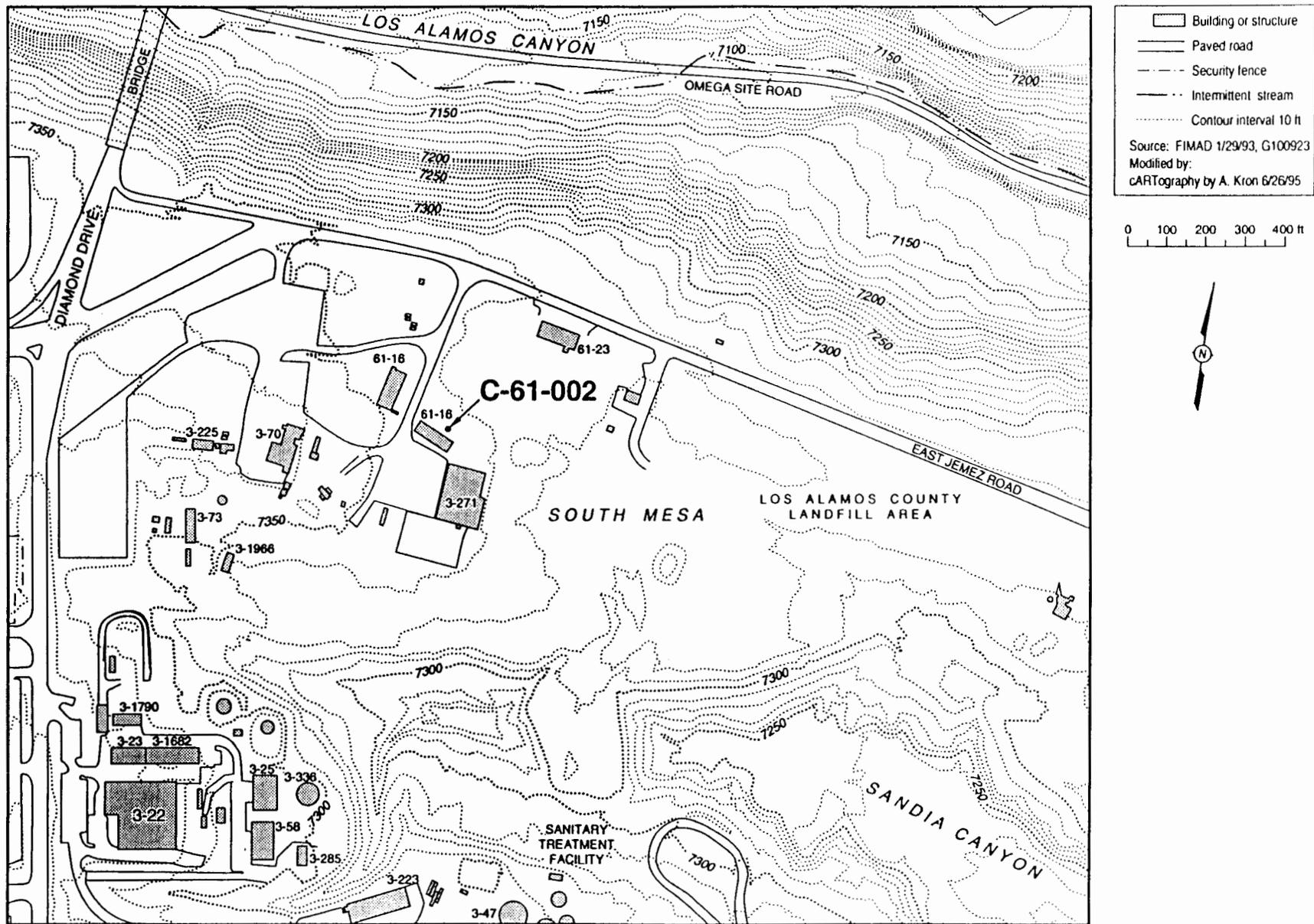


Fig. 1. Location of new AOC C-61-002, diesel/kerosene contamination.

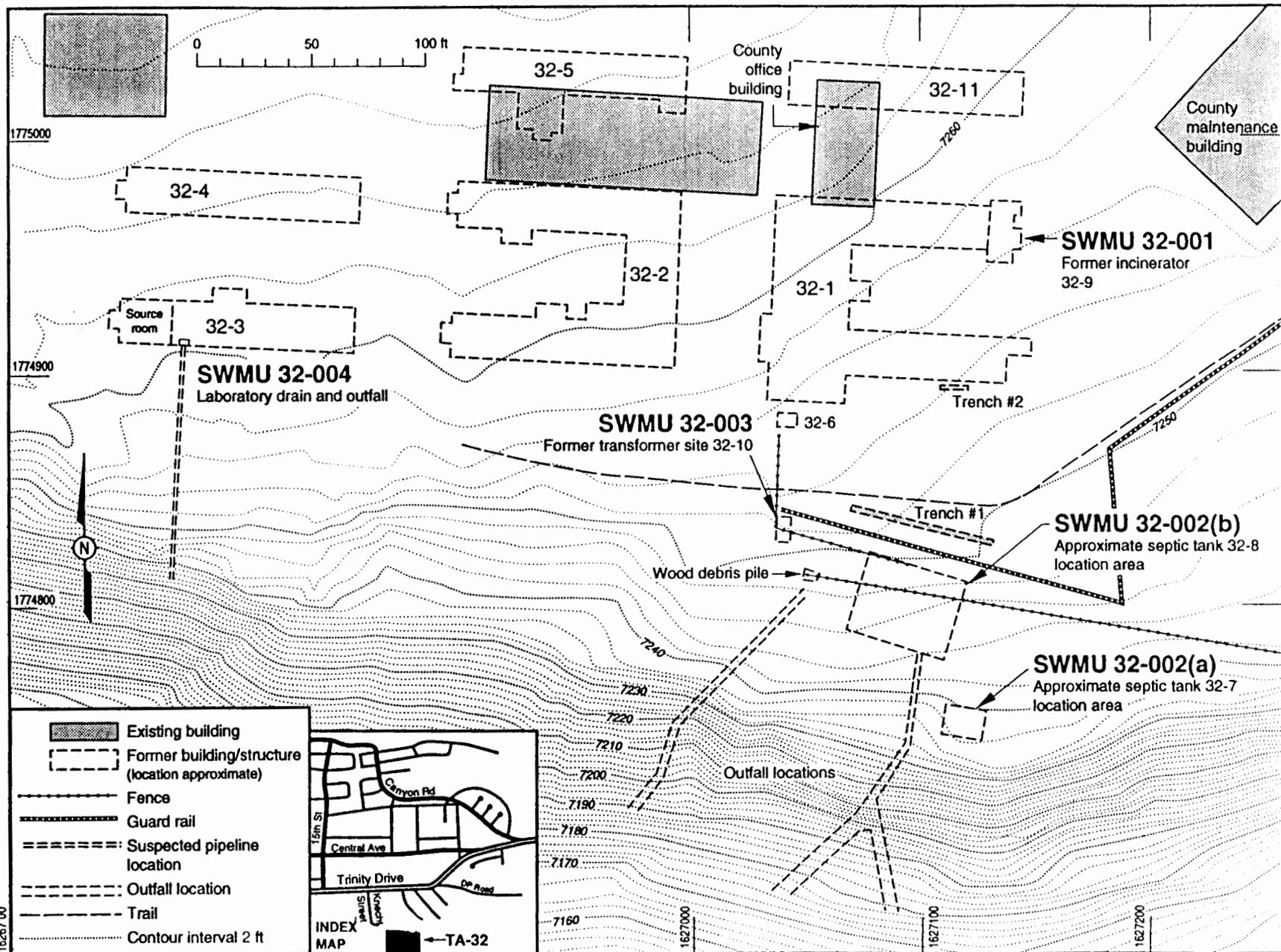


Figure 1.1-2. Locations of SWMUs at TA-32.

Sources: FIMAD, 9/20/94, G102562; Surv Tek, Inc. 10/94, LANL-20.ASC
 Modified by: cARTography by A. Kron 6/25/95