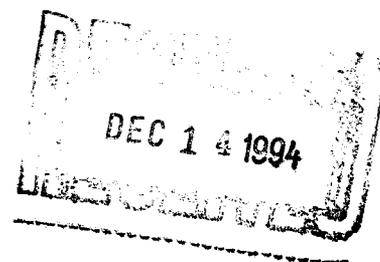


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Department of Energy
Field Office, Albuquerque
Los Alamos Area Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

DEC 1 2 1994



Ms. Barbara Hoditschek
Permit Program Manager
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials
Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
525 Camino de los Marquez
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Ms. Hoditschek:

Subject: Technical Area (TA) 40 Scrap Detonation Site (SDS) Closure Update

This letter is to update you on Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure activities at TA-40 as requested by Mr. Cornelius Amindyas of your staff on November 3, 1994.

Field screening and hand excavation operations for TA-40 SDS have occurred. All visual contamination has been removed from the burn cage area and field screening was conducted at the predetermined grid locations. The verification sample collected from the burn cage contained 7.5 mg/l total and less than 0.0423 mg/l Toxicity Characteristic Leading Procedure (TCLP) concentration for lead. The antimony concentration was 0.32 mg/l total. Both lead and antimony concentrations are less than action levels.

During the excavation of the east burn area, visual contamination was found to be more extensive than expected. Two samples collected from the area were found to contain total and TCLP lead concentrations greater than action levels. Total concentrations were 4,420 mg/l and 1,380 mg/l lead. TCLP concentrations were 49.2 mg/l and 11.2 mg/l. The use of a backhoe will be necessary to continue excavation and is now being coordinated. All visual contamination will be removed followed by field screening and verification sampling in accordance with the approved closure plan. Field activities are expected to be completed by the end of calendar year 1994.

If you have any questions, please contact Court Fesmire of my staff at (505) 665-4718.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. Taylor
Program Manager
Environmental Restoration Program

LAAMEP:9CF-002

cc:
See page 2



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Ms. Barbara Hoditschek

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