

TA-48

**FACT SHEET – TA-48 SOIL CONTAMINATION**

**Location:** TA-48-1 Outside, Southeast parking lot.

**When:** August 8, 2002

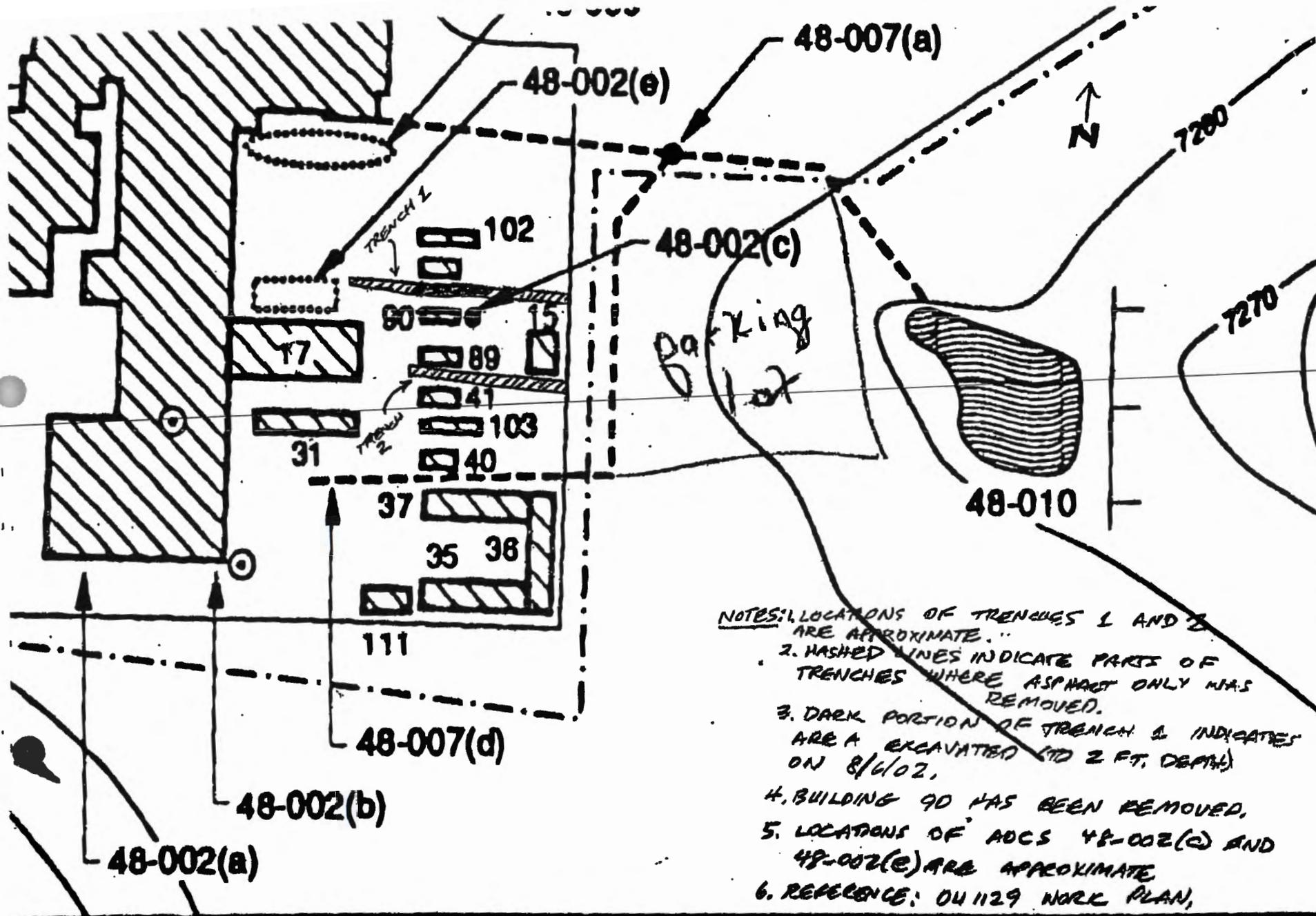
**What:** Release notification pursuant to Section 1203 of New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Regulations - While trenching for utilities workers observed discolored soil and smelled organic vapors.

Preliminary analysis shows the presence of several ethyl- and methyl-benzene compounds and naphthalene. Results of preliminary screening for radioactive contamination were all non-detect. We have sampled the soil and are analyzing for volatile organics, semi-volatile organics, and metals.

The trench has been covered and sealed with plastic and sandbags to prevent rainwater from moving any contaminants while cleanup crews mobilize. According to as-built drawings and surveys conducted before digging, there are no known sources (pipes, tanks, etc.) in the vicinity that may be the source of contamination. The ER Project has conducted a review of known SWMU's and AOC's in the vicinity and preliminarily concluded that they are not the source of contamination in the area.

**Planned Actions:** We are handling this as an operational release that is to be cleaned up upon discovery. Contaminated soil will be excavated, characterized, and properly disposed. We will identify and eliminate the source of the contamination. We will provide the 7-day notification on August 8, 2002 pursuant to Section 1203 of the WQCC Regulations.





- NOTES: 1. LOCATIONS OF TRENCHES 1 AND 2 ARE APPROXIMATE.
2. DASHED LINES INDICATE PARTS OF TRENCHES WHERE ASPHALT ONLY WAS REMOVED.
3. DARK PORTION OF TRENCH 1 INDICATES AREA EXCAVATED (TO 2 FT. DEPTH) ON 8/6/02.
4. BUILDING 90 HAS BEEN REMOVED.
5. LOCATIONS OF AOCs 48-002(c) AND 48-002(e) ARE APPROXIMATE.
6. REFERENCE: 041129 WORK PLAN,

MAY 1992

18. SWMU No. 48-001 is surface deposition of airborne release 988. 04-0259).



Looking west back to RC-1, these photos show the trenching done for utilities for the new office transportables.

The total trench length is about 54 feet. Trenching was going from east to west. The last 9 feet was where the contaminated soil was found.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> photo is a close up of the wet soil.



Panoramic overlay of photos shows the trench tailings from east to west (left to right).

Soil was dry at the east end and the last scoops show a different color due to wetness of the soil. Close ups of the wetter soil is shown below.



Fresh sand not excavated



Excavated soil note  
changes in color from  
dry to wet



A similar trench located to the south of the other trench found no contaminated soil. The west of this trench is estimated to be about the same area but south of the trench that found contaminated soil.



Looking West



Looking East

Immediate remediation on 8-6-02 was to cover the wet soil with a tarp.

The trench was then covered by wooden pallets and covered with plastic for the whole length of the trench.

Sand bags were also placed along the western edge of the area to help divert any rainwater away from the trench.