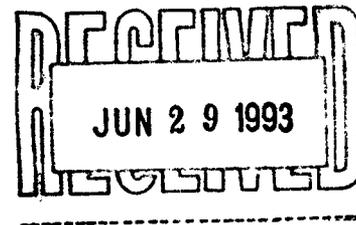




Telephone
call-in
6/21/93
John Mack DOE

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



JUN 29 1993

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 4
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Garcia:

This written report for the June 22, 1993, emergency chemical destruction at Technical Area (TA) 53, is submitted pursuant to the requirements of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit, Module II, General Facility Conditions, Paragraph II.K.2.c.

On Friday, June 18, 1993, personnel from the Isotope & Nuclear Chemistry Group (INC) made an initial assessment that an unopened 1 ounce bottle of picrylsulfonic acid in a chemical storage area of Room D123, Building 1, at TA-53, should be disposed of based on the time it had been in storage and the resulting possibility that it might be an explosion hazard. Representatives of the Emergency Management Office, the Environmental Management Group (EM), the Health & Safety Group, and the Hazardous Devices Team (HDT) were contacted and, at a meeting at the facility at 1:00 p.m., June 21, 1993, the decision was reached to implement the HDT Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), "SOP for Emergency Destruction of Unstable Chemicals," as approved July 7, 1992.

This decision was based upon the determination that the chemical could not be safely transported or handled by normal disposal procedures due to the possibility of friction or shock initiating an explosion. The severe explosion hazard information was obtained from the chemical's Material Safety Data Sheet. Air modelling calculations were performed and the determination was made that the planned release of the compound by burning would not result in significant toxic gas concentrations at public access points, based upon American Industrial Hygiene Association guidelines. Safe stand-off distances for the chemical destruction personnel were calculated.

The EM Group contacted Jon Mack, Los Alamos Area Office, who notified Stephanie Stoddard of the New Mexico Environment Department by telephone at 3:45 p.m., June 21, 1993, as required by paragraph II.K.2.b of the LANL permit.

TK



Benito Garcia

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JUN 29 1993

The chemical and container were destroyed in a portable burn box, approximately 200 feet north of TA-53, Building 1, at 8:30 a.m., on June 22, 1993. The destruction process was performed by the HDT in accordance with the procedures contained in the SOP. No unusual occurrences were observed. It was determined by reference to Table 302.4 at 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 302, that the amount of chemical involved did not necessitate reporting to the National Response Center.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Further information may be obtained from Jon Mack of my staff at 665-5026.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Vozella, Chief
Environment, Safety, and Health
Branch

LESH:7JM-054

cc:

A. Tiedman, ADO, LANL,
MS-A120
T. Gunderson, EM-DO, LANL,
MS-J591
K. Hargis, EM-8, LANL,
MS-K490
T. Drypolcher, EM-7, LANL,
MS-E517
CRM-4, LANL, MS-A150
EM-8 File