

TA 54



Los Alamos National Laboratory/University of California
Risk Reduction & Environmental Stewardship (RRES)
Environmental Restoration (ER) Project, MS M992
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Date: November 14, 2002
Refer to: ER2002-0791

Mr. John Young, Corrective Action Project Leader
Permits Management Program
NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East
Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

SUBJECT: SAMPLING NOTIFICATION

Dear Mr. Young:

During the week of November 25, 2002, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Risk Reduction and Environmental Stewardship-Remediation (RRES-R) Project is planning to collect samples at Material Disposal Area (MDA) H, Technical Area (TA) 54 as described in Section 5.0 of the "Addendum to the RFI Report for MDA H, (Solid Waste Management Unit 54-004) at TA 54," (LA-UR-02-3397). The RRES-R Project will duplicate the December 2001 RFI sampling event conducted at MDA H at the request of the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau (NMED-HWB) (NMED 2001, 71294) to confirm the extent of tritium in subsurface pore gas and determine how Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) concentrations change over time in the subsurface. Specifically, pore gas samples will be collected at depths of 50 ft, 100 ft, and 250 ft below ground surface (bgs) in boreholes 54-1023 and 54-15462, and at 50 ft and 95 ft bgs in borehole 54-15461. In addition, the RRES-R Project is proposing direct sampling and analysis of ambient air to determine VOC concentrations at the surface of the site through two eight-hour SUMMA canister samples that will be analyzed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) method TO-15 "VOCs in Air Collected in SUMMA Canisters." One of the ambient air samples will be collected on the surface of MDA H and the second ambient air samples will be collected at the air station located outside the northwest corner of site fence, downwind of the predominant wind direction from the site. A flow regulator valve on both SUMMA canisters will provide a steady collection of ambient air for eight hours to provide representative samples of the breathing zone through standard work hours at the site. The two samples will be collected simultaneously. The United States EPA reference is attached.

The RRES-R Project will verbally confirm and/or notify NMED-HWB staff of any changes to the schedule. Results from the sampling will be presented in the MDA H Corrective Measure Study (CMS) Report. The sampling is summarized in the following table, which indicates the minimum number of samples to be collected:



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Document	Location	Number of Samples	Sample Type	Analyses
1. Addendum to the RFI Report for Material Disposal Area H, (SWMU 54-004) at TA-54, LA-UR-02-3397)	MDA H at TA-54, SWMU 54-004	8	SUMMA Canister (50' and TD of each borehole)	VOCs and Tritium
2. Request for Supplemental Information Response for TA-54, MDA H, Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) Report Material Disposal Area H (MDA H), Technical Area 54 (TA-54) (LA-UR-01-1208)		2	SUMMA Canisters (Ambient air on surface of MDA H and at fence line)	TO-15 VOCs
3. Plan for Supplemental Sampling for the RCRA Facility Investigation at Material Disposal Area H, (LA-UR-01-2516)				

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at (505) 667-0819.

Sincerely,



Roy Bohn
Environmental Restoration Project
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Enclosure 1: EPA Reference for Analytical Method TO-15

RB/PB/rq

Mr. John Young
ER2002-0791

-3-

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RRES-R File, MS M992
IM-5, MS A150
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Cy: (w/out enclosure):

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TITLE

EPA Method TO-15 VOCs in Air Collected in SUMMA^b Canisters and Analyzed by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry

AUTHOR(S)

W.A. McClenny; USEPA & J.R. Adams and K.D. Oliver; Mantech

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ABSTRACT

Method TO-15 is an addition to the EPA Compendium of Methods for the Determination of Toxic Organic Compounds in Ambient Air and consists of guidance for the sampling and analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in air. The method has undergone an initial review by the EPA and has been placed on the AMTIC bulletin board maintained by EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) for further comments before final review and formal acceptance as a new method. The method is a companion method to the previously published TO-14 method entitled, ^bDetermination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in Ambient Air Using SUMMA^b Polished Canister Sampling and Gas Chromatographic (GC) Analysis^b. TO-15 differs from TO-14 in the following ways: (1) the water management system consists of the use of a small sample volume or a multisorbent/dry purge technique or both to dry the air sample; (2) the more extensive constitutes the target list; (3) GC/MS techniques are recommended as the only means to identify and quantify target compounds; (4) method performance criteria are specified for acceptance of data, thereby allowing the use of alternate but equivalent sampling and analytical instrumentation; and (5) enhance provisions for quality control are included.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT

GLORIA J. KOCH, EPA, (919) 541-4109 OR FTS 629-4109