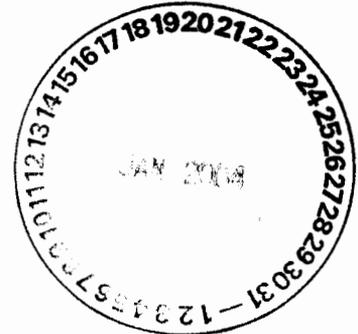




TA-54  
MDA H

January 16, 2004

Mr. John Young  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East  
Santa Fe, NM 87505



Dear Mr. Young:

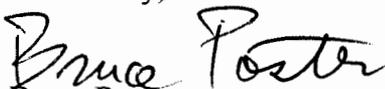
As you know LANL and DOE created a focus group to provide input regarding the MDA H CMS. That group met seven times and developed recommendations that were agreed to by all but one of the participants at the final meeting. In all, there were two dissents. (Those dissents and other comments are documented in the Draft Final Report on the MDA H Focus Group Process, which was previously sent to Neelam Dhawan at your office.) We will shortly send you a copy of the final report.

As the facilitator of the focus group, I have been asked to inform you of the consensus position of the focus group, which is summarized below.

1. The focus group (with one dissent at the final meeting and one subsequent dissent) supports the selection of the corrective measure alternative recommended by LANL, Alternative 2, the engineered evapotranspiration cover.
2. It is essential that DOE provide a secure source of funding for ongoing cleanup and monitoring efforts at MDA H.
3. DOE should fund the independent monitoring of the MDA H site (in such a way as to minimize duplication of efforts with any monitoring by DOE), including the development of an independent plan for monitoring the site.
4. There should be a full performance review every five years, to include an evaluation as to whether the availability of any new technology should lead to any additional corrective measures.
5. There should be adequate public notice of all performance review activities and findings, including to all parties of record (at a level comparable to that pursuant to CERCLA requirements).
6. No action should be taken that would preclude or significantly complicate possible excavation of the site.

Please enter these comments into the public record regarding the MDA H CMS. Thank you.

Yours truly,

  
Bruce Poster  
President



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