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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Los Alamos Site Office  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

FEB 20 2007



James P. Bearzi, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Re: Notification of Force Majeure for the "Remedy Completion Report for Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 73-001(a-d), 73004(d) (Airport Landfill)"

Dear Mr. Bearzi,

The Department of Energy (DOE), Los Alamos Site Office, hereby submits a Notification of Force Majeure (Order on Consent, Section III.H) for the subject deliverable. This written notification follows verbal notice provided and accepted on February 16, 2007 by your office pursuant to Section III.H.3. Due to the recent snow event during the week of February 16, 2007, the completion of the final work element, capping of the east slope of the main landfill, will be delayed. It is anticipated that this delay will impact the completion of the Remedy Completion Report by a minimum of two weeks.

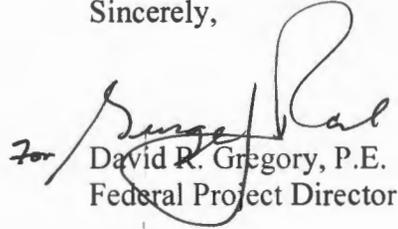
The final phase of work for the Airport Landfill closure began on January 22, 2007 following completion of the retaining walls on the east slope of the main landfill (i.e., attached photo). This final-phase effort includes shaping and contouring of the east slope to a 3:1 slope or less, placement of three lifts of infiltration material with a geoweb material layered in-between, compaction and testing of each lift, placement of the final lift of topsoil, reseeding, and placement of an erosion control mat. To date, the shaping and contouring has been completed along with the placement of the first lift of the infiltration layer and the geoweb material. The second lift of infiltration material has been partially placed. The most recent snow storm has halted the continuation of this activity. We are currently unable to work on the 3:1 slope, even with tracked equipment, due to extreme safety hazards. Attempts to do so resulted in the tracked equipment sliding down the slope. Further, the snow conditions prevent us from compaction testing the material that has been placed which, in turn, prevents us from placing the final lifts and the final erosion prevention mat. Finally, the last section on the southeast corner of the east slope requires delivery of the infiltration material that has been delayed due to similar safety hazards associated with the snow conditions at the stockpile site.

The melting of this snow must be followed by a relatively dry period to dry out the east slope before progress can continue. It is expected that the impact of the recent snow, combined with the predictions of additional snow next week, will prevent us from re-starting the activity in earnest for at least two weeks. The potential delay for submitting the Remedy Completion Report is attributable to this recent snow storm and the subsequent completion of the east slope remediation activity.



In requesting a delay in submission of the Remedy Completion report, DOE acknowledges that due diligence will be exercised to minimize the delay.

Sincerely,

  
For David R. Gregory, P.E.  
Federal Project Director

EO: 2BE-023

Attachment

cc w/attachment:

Darlene Goering  
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G.Rael, EO, LASO  
B. Enz, EO, LASO  
L. Cummings, OC, LASO  
LASO Records Center



Condition of main landfill east slope above the retaining walls as of 2/16/07.