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GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 3, 2004

Patty Wagner
Manager
Sandia Site Office/NNSA
U. S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 5400, MS 0184
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

Les Shephard
Vice President, Department 6000
Sandia Corporation
P.O. Box 5400, MS 0724
Albuquerque, NM 87185

RE: APPROVAL: SITE-SPECIFIC VARIANCE FROM TREATMENT STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN MIXED WASTE GENERATED AT SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES EPA ID# NM5890110518 HWB-SNL-04-006

Dear Ms. Wagner and Mr. Shephard:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby approves the U. S. Department of Energy/Sandia Corporation's December 17, 2003, petition for a site-specific variance from treatment standards for certain mixed wastes generated at Sandia National Laboratories. The site-specific variance applies only to manufactured items, less than debris sized, exhibiting the toxicity characteristic for metal(s), containing radioactive material, and potentially externally contaminated with radioactive materials (including radioactive sources, and spark gap, krytron, switch, electron, and over-voltage gap tubes). The site-specific variance does not apply to other non-debris waste, including, but not limited to soils, powders, or particulates.

The NMED solicited public comment on this matter from April 16, 2004, to May 16, 2004. No comments from the public were received.

Ms. Wagner and Mr. Shephard
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If you have questions concerning this approval you may contact Mr. William Moats of my staff at (505) 284-5086.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:wpm

cc: S. Martin, NMED HWB
C. Voorhees, NMED DOE OB
D. Bierley, NMED DOE OB
A. Reiser, SNL, MS 1151
J. Thompson, SNL MS 1151

File: Reading, SNL 2004, and SNL FFCO 2004