

MWL
ENTERED

February 29, 2008
Jon Goldstein
Deputy Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
Harold Runnels Building
1190 Saint Francis Drive (87505)
P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502

James B.
From:
Jon G.

MAR 10 2008

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

Thank for your letter explaining NMED's denial of Citizen Action's request for a Sandia National Laboratories informal presentation to the public for the Draft Hazardous Waste Permit. Respectfully, Citizen Action is in disagreement with the grounds for the denial stated in the letter. While we are appreciative of the previous extensions for public comment, the issuance of numerous other documents at the same time contemporaneously with the draft permit have made thorough analysis for the draft permit difficult.

You state that contrary to Citizen Action's understanding, "only one draft renewal permit for SNL's hazardous waste management has been developed and released to the public for comment." While that may be true, the draft permit now issues six years after the initial application. Since the 2002 application was presented to the public, information has significantly changed in relation to various facilities. Modifications for Module IV of the application or permit have been made several times for removal of numerous solid waste management units (SWMUs) and for addition of the Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) associated with the Chemical Waste Landfill. The Chemical Waste Landfill, for example was listed on the May 10, 2002 RCRA application, but is not part of the 2007 draft. Class 3 Modifications were requested in September 2004 for the Mixed Waste Landfill. During 2005 and 2006, SNL requested modifications to the existing permits for the Hazardous Waste Management Facility (HWMF) to reflect changes in personnel and operations.¹

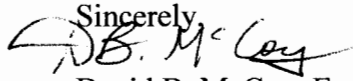
According to the Consent Order (p.10), "on February 6, 2002 SNL submitted a Part A and Part B Permit Request (10 year reapplication) to the Department that included the Hazardous Waste Management Facility, The Thermal Treatment Facility, The Radioactive and Mixed Waste Management Facility, the High Bay Storage Facility, the Auxiliary Hot Cell, and the Manzano Storage Bunkers." A previous letter from NMED (2/12/08) indicated that "prior to the submission of the permit application, SNL held a public meeting on January 17, 2002..." The notice did not include the MWL on either the Part A or Part B application. The MWL is now included as a part of Part B of the 2007 Draft Permit although the MWL was not on any previous RCRA Part A application for SNL. Holding a informal hearing six years prior to the present draft is not timely.

Citizen Action continues to believe that the public would benefit from an informal presentation of the permit by SNL. Please include this letter along with the earlier

¹ Draft Complex Transformation SPEIS December 2007, p. 10-33.

Citizen Action February 13, 2008 letter for the administrative record for public comments
in relation to the Draft Permit.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


David B. McCoy, Executive Director
Citizen Action New Mexico
POB 4276
Albuquerque, NM 87196-4276
505 262-1862
dave@radfreenm.org

