



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

August 29, 2008

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Review of the Sandia National Laboratories Mixed Waste Landfill
(Assignment Number OPE-FY08-0025)

FROM: Eric Lewis, Product Line Director //s//
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Richard Greene, Regional Administrator
Region 6

The EPA Office of the Inspector General is beginning preliminary research on issues related to Region 6's oversight of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) activities at the Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) in New Mexico. The Project Manager for this project is Larry Dare.

This assignment resulted from a hotline complaint alleging Region 6 did not adequately address public concerns about activities at MWL.

Our primary objective is to determine if Region 6 carried out its oversight responsibilities regarding Sandia National Laboratory's MWL. As part of our review will determine if Region 6 performed independent analysis of the issues presented to it by Citizen Action New Mexico that raise questions about the protection of human health and the environment. We will conduct our work by reviewing records at and conducting interviews with representatives of Citizen Action New Mexico, EPA, and the State of New Mexico.

We will contact your staff to arrange a mutually agreeable time for an entrance conference to discuss the assignment objectives and status of our planned work. We will also answer any questions you may have about our evaluation process and reporting procedures. At our initial meeting we will also answer questions you, or your staff, have about the project process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the course of the project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-566-2664 or lewis.eric@epa.gov, or Larry Dare at 202-566-2138 or dare.larry@epa.gov if you, or your staff, have any questions.

cc: Susan Jenkins, Audit Liaison, Region 6