

SNL MWL

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**National Nuclear Security Administration**

Sandia Site Office  
P.O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400

SEP - 4 2009



**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. James Bearzi, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Road East, Bldg 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) and Sandia Corporation (Sandia), DOE/NNSA is submitting this letter to formalize in writing the details of a verbal notification concerning the schedule and approach for supplemental watering of the Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) Evapotranspirative (ET) Cover. This schedule and approach was discussed with Will Moats of your technical staff on August 13, 2009. Seeding of the ET Cover was completed the week of August 31, 2009. The watering will continue for approximately 3 months to ensure the establishment of a native plant community.

The supplemental watering plan for the MWL ET Cover will be similar to the approach approved by the New Mexico Environment Department on July 31, 2009 for the Chemical Waste Landfill. The amount of water used and the duration of each watering event will be tracked as a precipitation event. This information will be compared to the Cover Performance Modeling presented in the Section 5.3 of the MWL Corrective Measure Implementation Plan (CMIP) (SNL/NM November 2005) to demonstrate that supplemental watering will not result in water percolating downward through the ET Cover and into the waste disposal areas.

Condition 2 of the NMED Conditional Approval of the MWL CMIP (Bearzi December 2008) detailed that supplemental watering information will be included in the revised MWL Long-Term Monitoring and Maintenance Plan (LTMMP). As this supplemental watering of the ET Cover precedes the required submittal of the LTMMP, it is our understanding that this notification prior to completion of the LTMMP is acceptable to the NMED.

Should you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at (505) 845-6036 or Joe Estrada of my staff at (505) 845-5326.

Sincerely,

Patty Wagner  
Manager

cc:

W. Moats, NMED (Via Certified Mail)  
L. King, EPA, Region 6 (Via Certified Mail)  
T. Skibitski, NMED-OB (2 copies)  
J. Lehr, NA-56/HQ/FORS  
A. Blumberg, SNL/NM, MS-0141  
L. Shephard, SNL/NM, MS-0724  
D. Miller, SNL/NM, MS-0718  
M. Walck, SNL/NM, MS-0736  
J. Cochran, SNL/NM, MS-0719  
M. Mitchell, SNL/NM, MS-0718  
C. Daniel, Records Center, SNL/NM, MS-1089  
Zimmerman Library, UNM (c/o C. Daniel, SNL/NM, MS-0718)  
J. Estrada, NNSA/SSO, MS-0184  
J. Gould, NNSA/SSO, MS-0184  
D. Pellegrino, NNSA/SSO, MS-0184

## CERTIFICATION STATEMENT FOR APPROVAL AND FINAL RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS

**Document title:** Notification of Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) Evapotranspirative (ET) Cover Supplemental Watering Plan, August 2009

**Document author:** Mike Mitchell, Department 06765

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I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision according to a system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Les Shephard*  
Les Shephard, Vice President  
Energy, Resources and Nonproliferation  
Division 6000  
Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185  
Operator

8/26/2009  
Date

and

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Patty Wagner*  
Ms. Patty Wagner, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Sandia Site Office  
Owner and Co-Operator

9-3-09  
Date