



BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

DIANE DENISH
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030
www.nmenv.state.nm.us



RON CURRY
Secretary

SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 8, 2010

Kimberly A. Davis
Acting Manager
Sandia Site Office/NNSA
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 5400, MS 0184
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

Dr. Marianne C. Walck
Director
Nuclear Energy & Global Security Technologies
Sandia Corporation
P.O. Box 5800, MS 0701
Albuquerque, NM 87185-0701

**RE: CLASS 3 PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUESTS FOR GRANTING
CORRECTIVE ACTION COMPLETE STATUS FOR 26 SWMUS/AOCS
(REQUEST OF MARCH 1, 2006) AND 5 OTHER SWMUS/AOCS (REQUEST OF
JANUARY 7, 2008)
SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES, EPA ID# NM5890110518
HWB-SNL-06-007 AND HWB-SNL-08-001**

Dear Ms. Davis and Dr. Walck:

The U. S. Department of Energy and Sandia Corporation (Permittees) have made two separate requests for Corrective Action Complete (CAC) status for 31 Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs)/Areas of Concern (AOCs) at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). The Permittee's first request concerned 26 SWMUs/AOCs and was made on March 1, 2006 (Group 1); the second request for remaining five SWMUs/AOCs (Group 2) was made on January 7, 2008. The NMED issued a public notice regarding Group 1 on December 10, 2007, and received public comments from Citizen Action and the Permittees. A public hearing was requested by Citizen Action concerning 24 of the Group 1 SWMUs/AOCs, but not yet scheduled. Although the NMED has not issued a public notice for Group 2, the agency has nevertheless received comments from Citizen Action.

In accordance with 20.4.1.901.A(4) NMAC, NMED, Permittees, and Citizen Action (with other citizen advocacy organizations present) met several days in June 2009 with the intent of

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resolving as much opposition as possible to the granting of CAC status for sites for which there was public concern. NMED has determined that several SWMUs require additional site characterization work and that CAC status should not be granted at this time. Additionally, two SWMUs require monitoring of groundwater as a long-term control even if the sites are granted CAC status, and that the future land use for several other SWMUs/AOCs should be restricted to industrial use.

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Permittees about these preliminary decisions, and to provide additional direction as to the characterization work remaining and the long-term controls for the SWMUs/AOCs that need them. In this letter, NMED has divided the subject SWMUs/AOCs into four main categories: 1) SWMUs requiring additional corrective action; 2) SWMUs/AOCs subject to groundwater monitoring controls; 3) SWMUs/AOCs restricted to industrial land use; and 4) SWMUs/AOCs that do not require additional corrective action. Some SWMUs/AOCs will fall within more than one of these four categories.

NMED intends to issue a public notice concerning all of the SWMUs/AOCs mentioned in this letter in conjunction with that for the revised draft RCRA permit being developed for SNL. Depending on public comment received, including that taken or submitted during any hearing, that might be schedule, additional site characterization, long-term monitoring, land-use restrictions or other controls could be required for any or all of these SWMUs/AOCs. Final decisions by the NMED on these SWMUs/AOCs will be made only after this public-participation process, taking into consideration comment received.

In e-mail correspondence dated December 14 and December 17, 2009, NMED requested additional information on SWMU 52 that has not yet been provided to the agency. NMED will address SWMU 52 in a separate letter after the additional information has been provided to NMED.

SWMUs Requiring Additional Corrective Action

In accordance with Section VII.D.6 of the Consent Order (April 29, 2004), NMED has determined that the requirements for corrective action have not been satisfied for the following Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs). Groundwater monitoring is required at each of the following SWMUs.

1. SWMU 68 (Old Burn Site): Groundwater monitoring wells must be installed at SWMU 68 near the burn pan and associated ditch/surface impoundment. The groundwater must be sampled and analyzed for general chemistry, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), high explosives (HE) compounds, perchlorate, metals, hexavalent chromium, cyanide, nitrate plus nitrite, gross alpha and beta, and gamma spectrum. The Permittees must submit to the NMED for its review and approval a work plan to determine the gradient and direction of groundwater flow, and to sample and analyze the water quality of the groundwater at the site. The work plan shall include construction details and the locations and anticipated depths of

the groundwater monitoring wells, and must summarize the geology and hydrology of the site to the extent that is currently known. The plan shall also present details on field procedures, sampling and analysis of the groundwater, and related quality control. The plan shall also contain a summary of the results to be reported after the investigation phase is completed, and a schedule for implementation of the work.

2. SWMU 149 (Building 9930 Septic System): Additional groundwater monitoring for general chemistry, VOCs, perchlorate, metals (including selenium), and nitrate plus nitrite must be conducted at a frequency of three months (quarterly) for a period of at least two years. The Permittee must submit to NMED for its review and approval a work plan to sample and analyze the groundwater at the site. The work plan shall present details on field procedures, sampling and analysis of the groundwater, and related quality control. The plan shall also contain a summary of the results to be reported after the investigation phase is completed, and a schedule for implementation of the work.

3. SWMU 154 (Building 9960 Septic System, Septic Tanks, and Drainfields): Additional groundwater monitoring for general chemistry, VOCs, SVOCs, HE compounds, perchlorate, metals (including barium), nitrate plus nitrite, and gross alpha and beta, and gamma spectrum must be conducted at a frequency of 3 months (quarterly) for a period of at least two years. The Permittee must submit to NMED for its review and approval a work plan to sample and analyze the groundwater at the site. The work plan shall present details on field procedures, sampling and analysis of the groundwater, and related quality control. The plan shall also contain a summary of the results to be reported after the investigation phase is completed, and a schedule for implementation of the work.

4. SWMUs 8 and 58 Open Dump (Coyote Canyon Blast Area), and Coyote Canyon Blast Area: At least two groundwater monitoring wells must be installed west of and near Features YY and OO. The groundwater must be sampled and analyzed for general chemistry, VOCs, SVOCs, HE compounds, perchlorate, metals, cyanide, nitrate plus nitrite, gross alpha and beta, and gamma spectrum. The Permittees must submit to NMED for its review and approval a work plan to sample and analyze the water quality of the groundwater at the site. The work plan shall include construction details and the locations and anticipated depths of the groundwater monitoring wells, and must summarize the geology and hydrology of the site to the extent that is currently known. The plan shall also present details on field procedures, sampling and analysis of the groundwater, related quality control, and contain a summary of the results to be reported after the investigation phase is completed, and a schedule for implementation of the work.

If it is determined that groundwater is contaminated at any of these SWMUs, additional groundwater monitoring wells and corrective action will likely be required.

SWMUs/AOCs to be Subject to Groundwater Monitoring Controls

Pursuant to Section III.W.3.b of the Consent Order, the following SWMUs require long-term monitoring of groundwater on an annual basis as a site control. Groundwater should be sampled and analyzed for the parameters indicated.

1. SWMU 49 (Building 9820 Drains, Lurance Canyon): general chemistry, VOCs, HE compounds, perchlorate, metals, cyanide, nitrate plus nitrite, gross alpha and beta, and gamma spectrum.

2. SWMU 116 (Building 9990 Septic System): general chemistry, VOCs, HE compounds, perchlorate, metals, cyanide, and nitrate plus nitrite.

SWMUs/AOCs to be Restricted to Industrial Land Use

Pursuant to Section III.W.3.b of the Consent Order, NMED intends to restrict future land use at the following six SWMUs/AOCs to industrial use based on the level of cleanup achieved at these sites.

1. SWMU 4 (LWDS Surface Impoundments/Liquid Disposal System)
2. SWMU 46 (Old Acid Waste Line Outfall)
3. SWMU 91 (Lead Firing Site)
4. SWMU 196 (Building 6597 Cistern)
5. SWMU 234 (Storm Drain System Outfall)
6. AOC 1090 (Building 6721 Septic System)

SWMUs/AOCs that do not Require Additional Corrective Action

NMED does not require additional site characterization to be completed at the following SWMUs/AOCs, although groundwater monitoring is required as a long-term control for SWMUs 49 and 116.

1. SWMU 4 (LWDS Surface Impoundments/Liquid Disposal System)
2. SWMU 5 (LWDS Drainfield/Liquid Disposal System)
3. SWMU 28-2 (Mine Shaft)
4. SWMU 46 (Old Acid Waste Line Outfall)
5. SWMU 49 (Building 9820 Drains, Lurance Canyon)
6. SWMU 91 (Lead Firing Site)
7. SWMU 101 (Building 9926 Explosive Contaminated Sumps and Drains)
8. SWMU105 (Mercury Spill, Building 6536)
9. SWMU 116 (Building 9990 Septic System)
10. SWMU 138 (Building 6630 Septic System)
11. SWMU 140 (Building 9965 Septic System, Septic Tanks, and Drainfields)
12. SWMU 147 (Building 9925 Septic System, Septic Tanks, and Drainfields)
13. SWMU 150 (Building 9939/9939A Septic System, Septic Tanks, and Drainfields)

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14. SWMU 161 (Building 6636 Septic System)
15. SWMU 196 (Building 6597 Cistern)
16. SWMU 233 (Storm Drain System Outfall)
17. SWMU 234 (Storm Drain System Outfall)
18. AOC 1090 (Building 6721 Septic System)
19. AOC 1094 (Live Fire Range East Septic System (Lurance Canyon))
20. AOC 1095 (Building 9938 Seepage Pit, Coyote Test Field)
21. AOC 1101 (Building 885 Septic System)
22. AOC 1114 (Building 9978 Drywell)
23. AOC 1115 (Former Offices Septic System)
24. AOC 1116 (Building 9981A Seepage Pit)
25. AOC 1117 (Building 9982 Drywell, Solar Tower Complex)

Pursuant to Section III.M of the Consent Order work plans must be submitted to the NMED by June 30, 2010, for SWMUs 149 and 154, and by September 30, 2010, for SWMUs 68 and 8/58. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. William Moats of my staff at (505) 222-9551.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi

Chief

Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
W. Moats, NMED HWB
T. Skibitski, NMED DOE OB
L. King, EPA Region 6 (6PD-N)
J. Gould, DOE/NNSA, MS 0184
J. Cochran, SNL, MS 0719
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