



## ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION GROUP

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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September 5, 2002



Dr. Inés Triay, Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
U. S. Department of Energy  
P. O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, NM 88221-3090

Dear Dr. Triay:

The EEG requests all pertinent WTS and CBFO documentation on the TRUPACT-II #157 internal contamination incident discovered at the WIPP on August 26, 2002. These documents should include, but not be limited to, information from the initial survey of airborne contamination inside the inner containment vessel and any documentation produced for release of the TRUPACT-II to return to INEEL.

The EEG also requests a copy of any reports and/or documentation of the INEEL investigation, unloading, and decontamination of the contaminated TRUPACT-II #157. EEG believes that a timely investigation of the contaminated ICV at INEEL is important. It is not known whether this incident resulted from the accident or from problems at INEEL. INEEL has had problems in the past, including 3 shipment-related Corrective Action Reports (CARS) during the August 5-9, 2002 audit. Any problems at INEEL should not remain uncorrected throughout the remainder of the 3100 m<sup>3</sup> project. Please notify EEG of the schedule for the investigations, unloading, and decontamination at INEEL.

The EEG further requests any followup information or completed accident investigation reports on the accident of August 25, 2002.

The EEG has performed an initial survey of the accident location. This survey involved visual observation of the accident site along with radiological sampling at the site. No external radioactivity levels above background were identified at the accident location. We are currently performing laboratory analyses of samples collected at the accident location. The EEG also performed sampling at a location approximately two miles ESE of the accident site to establish background levels of radiation and radiological contamination. This background location was in a line between the accident location and the Gnome site. The results of the analyses will be

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forwarded to you when they are complete.

Please forward correspondence on these matters to myself. Address any questions to Tom Klein, at 885-9675 (tklein@eeg.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Silva', written in a cursive style.

Matthew Silva  
Director

MKS:JKC:TK:ss:pf

cc: Lindsay L. Lovejoy, AG  
Steve Zappe, NMED ✓  
Anne deLain Clark, EMNRD