



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

05 AUG 2003

RECEIVED

Ms. Sandra Martin
Acting Chief, Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 E. Rodeo Park Drive, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Subject: May 6-8, 2003 Compliance Inspection

Dear Ms. Martin:

At our meeting on July 29, 2003, Steve Zappe of your staff discussed the status of your department's review of documents submitted by the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) on May 16, 2003, as part of the department's hazardous waste compliance inspection held May 6 - 8, 2003. Mr. Zappe stated that the review of the documentation CBFO submitted was not complete but that the review to date had identified a potential compliance issue related to Waste Handler training.

The documents we submitted indicate that one Waste Handler was in need of the HWW-102 refresher training (see submittal Item 8.a, page 21), since his training qualification expired on April 24, 2002. The information that was requested by the NMED and submitted by DOE contains no further explanation. Records that NMED did not request show that the employee was on medical restriction at the time his training expired. The employee did not perform waste handling duties between the time his training expired and the time he completed his refresher training on May 14, 2003.

While we are uncertain whether the apparent compliance issue identified above is the same one identified by your staff, as illustrated by the example above, we believe that we may be able to supply additional information relevant to NMED's compliance determination. If NMED believes there is a compliance issue related to the documents we supplied for your inspection we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the matter and provide your staff with additional information that may clarify any potential compliance issues prior to any NMED action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 234-7349.

Sincerely,

Harold Johnson
Harold Johnson
Acting CBFO Assistant Manager
Office of Environmental Compliance

