



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

AUG 20 2003

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

Subject: Approval of the Final Audit Report for the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site
(A-03-03)

Dear Ms. Martin:

The final audit report for the 2003 recertification audit of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) was submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on April 24, 2003. To date, the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) has not received approval of this audit report or any comments on the audit report from NMED.

During audit A-03-03, the NMED provided two "Observer Inquiries" to CBFO. In a letter dated April 28, 2003 from James Bearzi, the NMED tied the resolution of these Observer Inquiries to approval of the final audit report for A-03-03. The letter stated, "*Although NMED received the final Audit Report for RFETS Audit A-03-03 on April 25, 2003, these issues must be resolved before NMED concludes that RFETS has adequately implemented the applicable portions of the WAP.*" The CBFO provided revised responses to the NMED on these Observer Inquiries addressing the NMED comments on July 8, 2003. The CBFO has not received any subsequent comments on these Observer Inquiries.

There are two new processes covered by this final audit report that require approval this week to prevent an adverse impact on RFETS operations. These new processes are, headspace gas sampling and analysis in Building 371 and real-time-radiography of lead lined drums. The CBFO respectfully requests that the NMED expedite the review and approval of this final audit report.

If you have any questions or you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me at 505-234-7300.

Sincerely,

Inés R. Triay
Manager



Sandra Martin

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cc:

K. Watson, CBFO *ED
A. Holland, CBFO *ED
S. Zappe, NMED *ED
C. Riggs, CTAC *ED
K. Dunbar, WTS (Operating Record)