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DEPUTY SECRETARY

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 6, 2004

R. Paul Detwiler, Acting Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Dr. Steven Warren, President  
Washington TRU Solutions LLC  
P.O. Box 2078  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-5608

**RE: NMED COMMENTS ON THE ROCKY FLATS ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY SITE  
FINAL AUDIT REPORT, AUDIT A-04-10  
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT  
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Mr. Detwiler and Dr. Warren:

On April 30, 2004, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Final Audit Report of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) Audit Number A-04-10 (Audit Report), from the Department of Energy's Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO). CBFO and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (the Permittees) were required to submit this Audit Report under the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit as specified in Permit Condition II.C.2.c. The intended scope of this annual recertification audit was to ensure the continued adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the RFETS waste characterization processes for retrievably stored and repackaged debris and homogeneous solids contact-handled waste relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit. This audit also included Summary Category Group S4000 (Soils and Gravels), for the first time, at any site. The Audit Report consisted of the following items:

- A narrative report
- Completed copies of relevant Permit Attachment B6 checklists
- Final RFETS standard operating procedures (hardcopy and electronic copy)
- Items corrected during the audit

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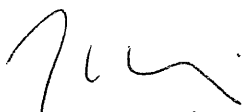
- Objective evidence examined during the audit
  - General information
  - Solids and soils/gravel sampling
  - Acceptable knowledge
  - Headspace gas
  - Real time radiography
  - Visual examination

NMED representatives observed the RFETS audit on March 30 – April 2, 2004. NMED has examined the Audit Report for evidence of compliance with the requirements of Permit Conditions II.C.2 (Audit and Surveillance Program) and II.C.1 (Waste Analysis Plan [WAP]). The Audit Report indicates there were two deficiencies requiring only remedial actions that were corrected during the audit; one observation identifying conditions that, if not controlled, could result in conditions adverse to quality; and one recommendation identifying an opportunity for improvement. Attached are NMED's general comments based upon observation of the RFETS audit and review of the Audit Report. These are provided to guide future audit report preparation and to assist the Permittees in understanding NMED's concerns.

NMED concludes that the Audit Report is incomplete in that it does not adequately address all elements examined during the audit. Because of this incompleteness, NMED is withholding approval of the Permittees' Final Audit Report for RFETS Audit A-04-10 until the Permittees submit the additional information identified in the paragraph above and in the attached comments that demonstrate full implementation of all relevant permit requirements. Indicate revisions to any text in the Audit Report and checklists with redline/strikeout annotation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (505) 428-2512.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:soz

Attachment

cc: Charles Lundstrom, NMED WWMD  
Steve Zappe, NMED HWB  
Tracy Hughes, NMED OGC  
Howard Roitman, CDPHE HMWMD  
Laurie King, EPA Region 6  
Betsy Forinash, EPA ORIA

Connie Walker, Trinity Engineering  
Don Hancock, SRIC  
Joni Arends, CCNS  
File: Red WIPP '04

**NMED COMMENTS ON THE**  
**ROCKY FLATS ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY SITE (RFETS)**  
**FINAL AUDIT REPORT A-04-10**

NMED's review indicated that the Audit Report showed less attention to detail than presented in previous Audit Reports and, unless remedied, this less rigorous approach to preparation could result in significant deficiencies in future Audit Reports. The body of the Audit Report appears to generally address the applicable elements. However, there are some omissions, errors, and inconsistencies including but not limited to the following items:

1. Question 1 lists procedure PRO-484-WIPP-003 Sections 6.1 and 6.2. NMED believes that adding Section 3 (definitions) would clarify the cited sections.
2. Question 7 lists procedure PRO-484-WIPP-003 Section 6.1. The cited reference is correct, but NMED believes that listing where the definitions are located would further clarify the answer.
3. Questions 48, 63, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 71 list procedure PRO-077-WIPP-005 Section 5.4.1[9]. The cited procedure is not included with the report.
4. Question 50 lists procedure 1-MAN-039-WEM-WP-1200. The cited procedure is not included with the report.
5. Question 56b lists procedure H-G83-WEMS-1209. The cited procedure is not included with the report.
6. Questions 66, 68, and 69 list procedure 1-V41-RM-001. The cited procedure is not included with the report.
7. Questions 72 and 73 list procedures PRO-X05-WC-4018 and PRO-T43-Traffic-528. The cited procedures are not included with the report.
8. Questions 114, 115, 117, and 124 list procedure L-4028. The cited procedure is not included with the report.
9. Question 122 lists procedures PRO-1585-PWS-440 Section 7[10] and PRO-1623-SCWS-440 Section 7[11]. The cited sections are correct, but for PRO-1585-PWS-440, NMED suggests adding Section 7[6] along with Section 6.2[25] Note, [26], [37] and [38], and for PRO-1623-SCWS-440 adding Section 7[6] along with Section 6.2[13] and [23] to further clarify the answer.
10. Question 147 lists 95-QAPjP-0050 Section B4-2c. NMED believes that adding Section B4-2b further clarifies the answer.
11. Question 151 lists procedure H19-WSRIC-001. The cited procedure does not exist. Do the Permittees mean 4-H19-WSRIC-001?

12. Question 220 E. lists procedure PRO-1669-HGAS-V&V Section 6.1.26.1.4. The cited section does not exist.
13. Question 245 lists procedure PRO-1520-Mobile-RTR Section 7.2[42]. Do the Permittees mean Section 7.1[42]?
14. Question 300 lists procedure PRO-1358-440-VERP Section 5.6. Although the citation is correct for part of the question, it does not fully answer the question.