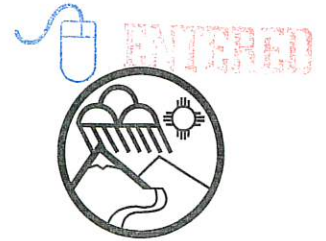




BILL RICHARDSON  
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

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2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
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RON CURRY  
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 29, 2005

Dr. Inés R. Triay, Acting Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Mr. Richard D. Raaz, President  
Washington TRU Solutions LLC  
P.O. Box 2078  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-5608

**RE: NMED APPROVAL OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE/CENTRAL CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT FINAL AUDIT REPORT, AUDIT A-05-01 WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Dr. Triay and Mr. Raaz:

On January 10, 2005, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the initial Audit Report of the Savannah River Site/Central Characterization Project (SRS/CCP) Audit Number A-05-01 (**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 SRS/CCP waste characterization processes for retrievably stored debris contact-handled waste relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit. The initial Audit Report consisted of the following items:

- A narrative report
- Completed copies of relevant Permit Attachment B6 checklists (hardcopy and electronic)
- Final SRS/CCP standard operating procedures (hardcopy and electronic)
- Corrective action reports and items corrected during the audit
- Objective evidence examined during the audit
  - General information
  - Acceptable knowledge

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Dr. Triay and Mr. Raaz

April 29, 2005

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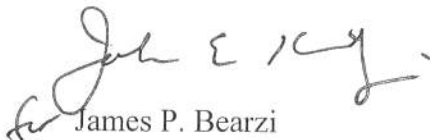
- Headspace gas
- Real time radiography
- Visual examination

On February 25, 2005, NMED provided the Permittees with comments on the initial Audit Report, noting that it was incomplete in that it did not adequately address all pertinent elements examined during the audit. On March 25, 2005, NMED received the Permittees' response to comments in a transmittal dated March 24, 2005, which included a revised Final Audit Report, revised B6 checklists, and response to comments along with corrected items.

Upon review of this additional information, NMED concludes that the revised Audit Report demonstrates that SRS/CCP has adequately implemented the applicable characterization requirements of the WAP. Therefore, NMED approves the Permittees' revised Final Audit Report for SRS/CCP Audit A-05-01 for the recertification of retrievably stored debris contact-handled waste, and amends the previous Audit Report approval for Audit A-04-01 issued by NMED on August 27, 2004 to include all waste forms and processes evaluated by this recertification audit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Steve Zappe at (505) 428-2517.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:soz

cc: Cindy Padilla, NMED WWMD  
Steve Zappe, NMED HWB  
Chuck Noble, NMED OGC  
Tom Klein, NMED DOEOB  
Robert King, Jr., SC DHEC  
Laurie King, EPA Region 6  
Sharon White, EPA ORIA  
Connie Walker, Trinity Engineering  
Don Hancock, SRIC  
Joni Arends, CCNS

**File: Red WIPP '05**