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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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RON CURRY
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 31, 2008

David Moody, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Farok Sharif, President
Washington TRU Solutions LLC
P.O. Box 2078
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-5608

RE: NMED APPROVAL OF THE ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY/CENTRAL CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT FINAL AUDIT REPORT, AUDIT A-08-03 WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088

Dear Dr. Moody and Mr. Sharif:

On June 17, 2008, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Final Audit Report of the Argonne National Laboratory/Central Characterization Project (ANL/CCP) Audit Number A-08-03 (**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 initial certification audit was to ensure the adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the ANL/CCP waste characterization process for newly packaged Summary Category Group S5000 debris remote-handled (**RH**) waste relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit. The Audit Report consisted of the following items:

- A narrative report (hardcopy and electronic)
- Completed copies of relevant Permit Attachment B6 checklists (hardcopy and electronic)
- Final ANL/CCP standard operating procedures (hardcopy and electronic)
- Objective evidence examined during the audit
 - General information
 - Visual examination

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An NMED representative observed the ANL/CCP audit on May 28-29, 2008. 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 that there were no concerns identified during the audit.

NMED concludes that this Audit Report demonstrates that the ANL/CCP has adequately implemented the applicable characterization requirements of the WAP. Therefore, NMED approves the Permittees' Final Audit Report for ANL/CCP Audit A-08-03 for the certification of newly packaged S5000 debris RH waste, and amends the previous Audit Report approval for Audit A-07-03 issued by NMED on October 31, 2007 to include all waste forms and processes evaluated by this audit.

This Audit Report approval is of the broad programmatic implementation of waste characterization requirements at the generator/storage site, and does not constitute approval of individual waste characterization procedures, nor condone inappropriate applications of those procedures. This approval does not relieve the Permittees of their obligation to comply with the requirements of the Permit or other applicable laws and regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (505) 476-6016 or Steve Zappe at (505) 476-6051.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JPB:soz

cc: Marcy Leavitt, NMED WWMD
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