August 28, 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 ADVANCED MIXED WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT FINAL AUDIT REPORT, A-08-09 WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088

Dear Dr. Moody and Mr. Sharif:

On July 16, 2008, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Final Audit Report of the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) Audit Number A-08-09 (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 AMWTP waste characterization processes relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit for sampling homogeneous solids (S3000) and soils/gravel (S4000) contact-handled waste containers holding smaller containers of waste ("container-in-container" sampling) that are not amenable to sample by coring. 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 AMWTP standard operating procedures for sampling of homogeneous solids and soils/gravels (hardcopy and electronic)
Objective evidence examined during the audit for:
- General information
- Solids Sampling

An NMED representative observed the ANL CCP audit on June 24 and 25, 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 are no conditions adverse to quality, observations, or recommendations identified during the audit.

NMED concludes that this Audit Report demonstrates that AMWTP has implemented the applicable characterization requirements of the WAP. Therefore, NMED approves the Permittees' Final Audit Report for AMWTP Audit A-08-09 initial certification of “container-in-container” sampling for S3000 and S4000 contact-handled waste, and amends the previous Audit Report approval for Audit A-07-14 issued by NMED on January 18, 2008 to include all waste forms and processes evaluated by this initial certification 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

cc: Marcy Leavitt, NMED WWMD
Steve Zappe, NMED HWB
Chuck Noble, NMED OGC
Thomas Kesterson, NMED DOEOB
Toni Hardesty, IDEQ
Susan Burke, IDEQ INL Oversight
Laurie King, EPA Region 6
Tom Peake, EPA ORIA
Connie Walker, Trinity Engineering
Don Hancock, SRIC