



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 23 2010

Donald C. Gadbury
Director, National TRU Program
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88221



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Dear Mr. Gadbury:

We received your letter dated June 22, 2010, requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) concurrence on the draft certification expansion memo you plan to issue to the Central Characterization Project (CCP) at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). Your request is in accordance with the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) procedures that are intended to ensure that the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) site certifications correlate appropriately with EPA approvals for waste characterization activities at DOE transuranic (TRU) waste generator sites.

On November 2, 2005 and January 12, 2007, EPA respectively, approved INL-CCP's TRU waste characterization program for characterizing contact-handled (CH) waste and remote-handled (RH) waste prior to disposal at the Waste Isolation Plant. The inspection reports are available in the EPA Air Docket No. A-98-49 (Items II-A4-59 and II-A4-72). This certification expansion adds the EPA Tier 1 approvals for use of Visual Examination Technique of RH waste (EPA Air Docket No. A-98-49;II-A4-118) and waste stream ID-MFC-S5400-RH (EPA Air Docket No. A-98-49;II-A4-126). EPA has also received and reviewed tiering reports covering the waste characterization program implemented by CCP at INL and have found all changes made to be acceptable. EPA concurs that all waste characterization equipment, procedures and waste streams encompassed in DOE's draft certification expansion memo comport with all of EPA's existing approvals for CH and RH waste at INL-CCP.

Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to review the draft certification expansion memo for INL-CCP. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ed Feltcorn at (202) 343-9422 or Rajani Joglekar at (202) 343-9462.

Sincerely,

Edward Feltcorn
Center for Waste Management and Regulations



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