



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

OCT 20 2010

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

William B. Mackie  
Acting Director, National TRU Program  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, NM 88221



Dear Mr. Mackie:

We received your letter dated October 20, 2010, requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) concurrence on the draft recertification memo the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) plans to issue to the Central Characterization Project (CCP) at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). This request is in accordance with the CBFO procedures that are intended to ensure that the 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.

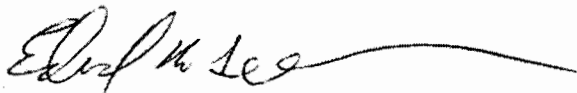
EPA approved LANL CCP's contact-handled (CH) and remote-handled (RH) TRU waste characterization programs in June 2007 and February 2008, respectively (EPA Air Docket Nos. A-98-49, Item II-A4-88 and A-98-49, Item II-A4-96).

Upon review of the draft recertification memo for LANL CCP, EPA determines that it appropriately authorizes characterization and certification of TRU contact-handled, retrievably-stored solids (S3000), and contact-handled, retrievably-stored debris (S5000) and Off Site Recovery Program (OSRP) sources packaged as newly-generated debris (S5000) waste at LANL. The EPA limitations concerning the TRU waste characterization program for CH and RH wastes contained in EPA's June 21, 2007 and February 19, 2008, approval letters remain applicable and are appropriately included in Attachment 4 of your site recertification. We concur that the waste characterization equipment, procedures and waste streams encompassed in your draft recertification letter for LANL CCP agree with EPA's existing approvals at the site.



Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to review the draft re-certification memo for LANL CCP. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ed Felcorn (202-343-9422).

Sincerely,



Edward Felcorn  
Center for Waste Management and Regulations

cc: (Electronic Distribution)  
Christine Gelles, DOE HQ  
Alton Harris, DOE HQ  
Ed Ziemianski, CBFO  
Ava Holland, CBFO QA  
J.R. Stroble, CBFO NTP  
Norma Castaneda, CBFO NTP  
Court Fesmire, CBFO NTP  
Martin Navarrete, CBFO QA  
Dennis Miehl, CBFO QA  
Jonathan Edwards, EPA  
Tom Peake, EPA  
Raymond Lee, EPA  
Steve Zappe, NMED