June 29, 2011

Edward Ziemianski, Acting Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

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

RE: SUSPENSION OF SHIPMENTS FROM IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY  
WIPP HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT  
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088

Dear Messrs. Ziemianski and Sharif:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received a courtesy copy of  
Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) Corrective Action Report (CAR) 11-043 via electronic  
mail today at 8:56 a.m. During Audit A-11-14 of Central Characterization Project (CCP)  
activities at Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the audit team identified the concern that  
led to the issuance of CAR 11-043. The CAR states that “AK [Acceptable Knowledge]  
records are not getting into the CCP Records system” and identifies hundreds of AK  
source documents that “were missing from CCP records.”

CAR 11-043 cites a violation of the WIPP Permit, Section C4-3c, which states in part,  
“Acceptable Knowledge information shall be compiled in an auditable record, including a  
road map for all applicable information.”

WIPP Permit Section C4-3g states, “If acceptable knowledge procedures do not exist, the
required information is not available, or corrective actions (i.e., CARs) are identified associated with acceptable knowledge compilation, and/or hazardous waste characterization, the Permittees will not manage, store, or dispose TRU mixed waste for the subject waste summary category. Management, storage, or disposal of the subject waste summary category at WIPP will not resume until DOE find that all corrective actions have been implemented and the site complies with all applicable requirements of the WAP."

The language in Permit Attachment C4, Section C4-3g, requires the Permittees to suspend shipments of waste from INL/CCP in the affected summary category groups until the CAR is closed. According to CAR 11-043, all three summary category groups (S3000, S4000, and S5000) are affected.

Therefore, effective immediately, the Permittees must suspend all shipments of waste from INL/CCP to WIPP until CAR 11-043 has been evaluated, the appropriate corrective actions have been implemented, and the CAR has been closed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (505) 476-6035 or Tim Hall at (505) 476-6049.

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

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cc: Raj Solomon, NMED, Deputy Secretary
Jim Davis, NMED RPD
Tim Hall, NMED HWB
Thomas Kesterson, NMED DOE-OB/WIPP
Julia Marple, NMED DOE-OB/WIPP
Toni Hardsety, IDEQ
Susan Burke, IDEQ INL Oversight
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