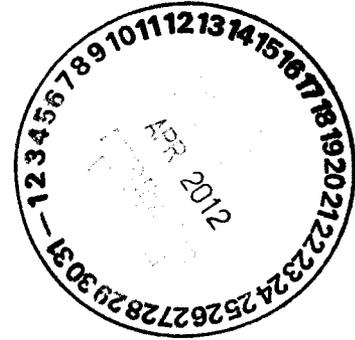




Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
APR 17 2012



Mr. Clint Marshall
Ground Water Pollution Prevention Section
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Subject: Notification of Discharge / Corrective Action Report

The purpose of this letter is: 1) to document the U. S. Department of Energy, Carlsbad Field Office call to you (via subcontractor) on the morning of April 11, 2012 and to provide your office a Notification of Discharge within seven days; and 2) to describe the corrective actions relative to the notification within 15 days. This information is being provided to you per your direction.

1. Notification

- (a) The name, address, and telephone number of the person or persons in charge of the facility, as well as of the owner and/or operator of the facility:

Person in charge of the facility: Jose R. Franco, Manager
4021 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico, 88220
(575) 234-7300

Owner of the facility: U. S. Department of Energy

Operator of the facility: URS Washington TRU Solutions, LLC

- (b) Name and address of the facility:

U. S. Department of Energy
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
30 miles east of Carlsbad, New Mexico off of State Highway 128
Carlsbad, NM 88220

- (c) The date, time, location, and duration of the discharge:

Date: March 13, 2012 to April 10, 2012
Time: N/A
Location: WIPP Site, Building 953



Latitude: 32 22.589, Longitude 103 47.746

Duration: There are 20 work days during this time frame. Water was released only when plumbed facilities were used.

(d) The source and cause of the discharge:

Source:

Sewer line connection was damaged during clean-out of line during use of rotary cleaning device.

Cause of discharge:

On March 13, 2012, a sewer cleaning subcontractor introduced a cleaning device into the sewer drain of this building. It is believed the sewer line cleaning device damaged a "rubber coupling" pipe connector between two pieces of four inch sewer pipe that lies on the ground surface below this building.

(e) A description of the discharge, including chemical composition:

From March 13, 2012 to the morning of April 10, 2012, water from the building drain system ran through the damaged drain connection fitting and onto the ground surface under the building.

The effluent into the drain was black water from restrooms and gray water from sinks.

(f) The estimated volume of the discharge:

Based on a building water meter, the water use through this building, from March 13, 2012 – April 10, 2012, is estimated to be 3,350 gallons. For purposes of this calculation it is assumed that all the water used in the building went to the ground.

(g) Any actions taken to mitigate immediate damage from this discharge:

- Water to the building was shut off preventing any further release of water.
- The skirting around the building was removed, as needed, to visually inspect the plumbing lines to determine the source of the discharge.

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Mr. Marshall

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- Once it was noted that the sewer line connection fitting was damaged, work orders were placed on a high priority level to reconnect the building sewer drain pipe.

2. Corrective Action Report - 20.6.2.1203.A. (3) & (6)

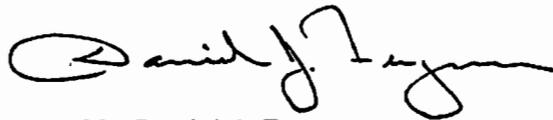
On April 12, 2012 a subcontractor completed the reconnection of the sewer line with a compression fitting. Work orders are being finalized with a contractor to remove residue left from the water accumulation under the building. Replacement of the connector fitting was completed in approximately 48 hours after detection of the discharge. Stained soil in the area of the pipe disconnection will be properly disposed of and the area will be sanitized.

In the future when drain cleaning is conducted the plumbing line will be evaluated confirming that there was no damage during the cleaning process. If any additional actions are needed, that are not described in the correspondence, they will be provided to your office in the next semi-annual DP – 831 report that is due to your office by July 31, 2012.

Upon review of this matter it is believed that this loss of sewage containment did not pose a threat to human health and environment. The corrective actions described are intended to meet all notification requirements of 20.6.2.1203 NMAC and DP-831.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter or need additional information, please contact me at (575) 234-8128.

Sincerely,



Mr. Daniel J. Ferguson,
Carlsbad Field Office

cc:

T. Kliphuis, NMED

*ED

CBFO M&RC

ED

*ED denotes electronic distribution