



SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

***Hazardous Waste Bureau***

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RYAN FLYNN  
Cabinet Secretary Designate

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

THOMAS SKIBITSKI  
Acting Director  
Resource Protection Division

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 20, 2013

Jose Franco, Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3100

**RE: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF APRIL 25, 2013 LETTER REGARDING SUPERCOMPACTION AS  
TREATMENT FOR THE REMEDIATION OF CERTAIN PROHIBITED ITEMS, WASTE  
ISOLATION PILOT PLANT  
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Mr. Franco:

On April 26, 2013, The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received notification that the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) has been authorized by the Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) to remediate prohibited quantities of liquids and un-punctured aerosol containers in accordance with the Permit. The notification states that CBFO completed the required reviews and determined that relevant procedures meet the requirements of the Permit.

Representatives from NMED observed the supercompaction process on July 9, 2012. During that time NMED requested documentation and explanation of how compaction of prohibited items can be ensured in light of potential waste items that are not readily compacted including items such as lead bricks. The April 26, 2013 submittal contained an Engineering Design File Record Sheet and Radiography Training Documents to address this inquiry. NMED reviewed these documents and the associated responses and concludes that CBFO has adequately addressed these inquiries.

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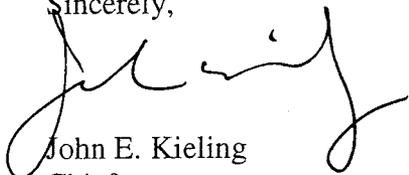


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It should be noted that training records and RTR files may be reviewed during annual compliance audits to ensure continued compliance.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Trais Kliphuis at (505) 476-6051.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

JEK:tlk

cc:

Dave Cobrain, NMED HWB  
Trais Kliphuis, NMED HWB  
Steve Holmes, NMED HWB  
Ricardo Maestas, NMED HWB  
Laurie King, EPA Region 6  
File: Red WIPP '13