

United States Government


  
Department of Energy

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**memorandum**

 Carlsbad Field Office  
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

DATE: AUG 20 2013

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CBFO:OQA:MPN:MAG:13-2023:UFC 2300.00

SUBJECT: Closure of CBFO CAR 13-023

TO: Oba L. Vincent, Acting Director, CBFO Office of Quality Assurance

Verification activities associated with the corrective actions for Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) Corrective Action Report (CAR) 13-023 have been completed. Results of the verification review indicate that the corrective actions have been fulfilled and are satisfactorily implemented. Therefore, CAR 13-023 is considered closed.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (575) 234-7483.

Martin P. Navarrete  
 Senior Quality Assurance Specialist

## Attachment

cc: w/attachment

J. Franco, CBFO	*ED
D. Miehl, CBFO	ED
J. Stroble, CBFO	ED
L. Bender, EPA	ED
J. Kieling, NMED	ED
T. Kliphuis, NMED	ED
R. Maestas, NMED	ED
S. Holmes, NMED	ED
C. Smith, NMED	ED
J. Harvill, CTAC	ED
R. Allen, CTAC	ED
B. Pace, CTAC	ED
P. Hinojos, CTAC	ED
G. White, CTAC	ED
WIPP Operating Record	ED
CBFO QA File	
CBFO M&RC	

\*ED denotes electronic distribution

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**CAR CONTINUATION SHEET**

1. CAR No: 13-023

2. Activity No: N/A

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**Block # 17 Acceptance of Corrective Action Completion:**

The Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) has performed an evaluation of the evidence supporting completion of the corrective actions associated with CBFO Corrective Action Report (CAR) 13-023. The methods used to verify completion of the actions contained in the approved corrective action plan (CAP) are described below.

*Italicized text, taken verbatim from the CAP, is used to reflect the correlation between the actions required by the CAR and the method used for verification.*

**REMEDIAL ACTIONS**

*The CBFO Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) will correct the misclassification of the concern identified during Audit A-13-02 and issue a CAR to the Savannah River Site Central Characterization Program (SRS/CCP) for resolution.*

**Verification:**

Verified the issuance of CBFO CAR 13-030 on May 9, 2013 (CBFO:OQA:DM:CC:13-1413:UFC 2300.00), correcting the misclassification of the concern identified during Audit A-13-02. CAR 13-030 was addressed and corrected by National TRU Program Certification (NTPC) and closed by CBFO on June 13, 2013 (CBFO:OQA:DSM:MAG:13-1446:UFC 2300.00).

**INVESTIGATIVE ACTIONS**

*Initiate a surveillance to evaluate the results of CBFO assessments for FY12 and FY13 to determine if there have been additional instances whereby concerns were misclassified. Furthermore, the surveillance scope and results will be used to assist in the identification of the root cause that led to the instances of misclassification so that the appropriate corrective actions and actions to preclude recurrence may be identified and taken to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.*

**Verification:**

Verified the performance of the investigative action to conduct a surveillance as documented in Surveillance Report S-13-23, Concern Misclassification Evaluation, dated June 25, 2013 (CBFO:OQA:DSM:MAG:13-1467:UFC 2300). The surveillance revealed 40 additional instances of concerns that were misclassified as Observations when they should have been classified as conditions adverse to quality. These instances affected concerns identified within the waste characterization programs of the NTPC and the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP).

**ROOT CAUSE DETERMINATION**

*The root cause determination will be identified based on the results of the surveillance described above in the investigative action(s) section.*

**Verification:**

Verified the determination of the root cause, which was based on the results of CBFO Surveillance S-13-23 and documented in the amended CAP for CBFO CAR 13-023 (CBFO:OQA:DSM:MAG13-2010:UFC 2300). The root cause was attributed to a specific transition period in which the OQA was staffed with personnel possessing limited knowledge/experience in the interpretation of quality assurance requirements for classifying assessment-related concerns.

**ACTIONS TO PRECLUDE RECURRENCE**

*The actions to preclude recurrence will be identified after the completion of the surveillance described in the investigative action(s) and root cause(s) section. Those actions will be amended to the CAP upon identification.*

**Verification:**

Verified the identification of the corrective action based on the results of CBFO Surveillance S-13-23 and documented in the amended CAP for CBFO CAR 13-023 (CBFO:OQA:DSM:MAG13-2010:UFC 2300).

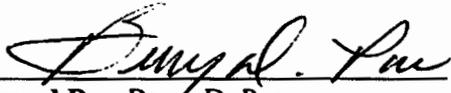
### CAR CONTINUATION SHEET

1. CAR No: 13-023	2. Activity No: N/A	3. Page 2 of 2
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The corrective action was to initiate CARs as remedial actions to address and correct the 40 instances of inappropriate classifications identified during Surveillance S-13-23. These CARs were issued as CARs 13-033, 13-034, 13-035, 13-036 (NTPC), and 13-037 (AMWTP).

**ACCEPTANCE**

Based on the verification of satisfactory completion of corrective actions, it is recommended that CAR 13-023 be closed.

  
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Verification Performed By: Berry D. Pace

8/20/13  
Date