April 18, 2014

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

Robert L. McQuinn, Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC
P.O. Box 2078
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-2078

RE: NMED APPROVAL OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE/CENTRAL CHARACTERIZATION PROGRAM FINAL AUDIT REPORT, AUDIT A-14-04
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088

Dear Messrs. Franco and McQuinn:

On March 4, 2014, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Final Audit Report of the Savannah River Site/Central Characterization Project (SRS/CCP) Audit Number A-14-04 (Audit Report), from the Department of Energy’s Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO). CBFO and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (the Permittees) were required to submit this Audit Report under the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit as specified in Permit Section 2.3.2.3. The intended scope of this recertification audit was to ensure the continued adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the SRS/CCP waste characterization for contact-handled (CH) Summary Category Groups (SCGs) S3000 homogeneous solids, S4000 soils/gravel, and S5000 debris wastes and remote-handled (RH) SCG S5000 debris waste relative to the requirements of the WIPP Permit.
This Audit Report approval is of the broad programmatic implementation of waste characterization requirements at SRS/CCP, and does not constitute approval of individual waste characterization procedures, nor condone inappropriate applications of those procedures. This approval does not relieve the Permittees of their obligation to comply with the requirements of the permit or other applicable laws and regulations.

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

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: Tom Blaine, Director, NMED EHD
    Trais Kliphuis, NMED HWB
    Steve Holmes, NMED HWB
    Ricardo Maestas, NMED HWB
    Coleman Smith, NMED HWB
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    File: Red WIPP '14