



Department of Energy
 Carlsbad Field Office
 P. O. Box 3090
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
JUN 17 2015



Mr. Val Cannon, Manager
 Quality Assurance
 Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC
 P.O. Box 2078
 Carlsbad, NM 88221-2078

Subject: Surveillance Report S-15-40, NWP Hoisting Operations

Dear Mr. Cannon:

The Carlsbad Field Office conducted the subject surveillance June 2 – 4, 2015, at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Results of the surveillance are provided in the enclosed report. No deficiencies were noted.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the surveillance, please contact me at (575) 234-7491.

Sincerely,

Dennis S. Miehl
 Senior Quality Assurance Specialist

Enclosure

cc: w/enclosure

W. Mouser, CBFO	* ED	S. Holmes, NMED	ED
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CBFO SURVEILLANCE REPORT

Surveillance Number: S-15-40 **Date of Surveillance:** June 2 – 4, 2015

Surveillance Title: NWP Hoisting Operations

**Organization(s)
Surveilled:** Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP)

Surveillance Team:

Dennis Miehls	Management Representative, Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO)
Priscilla Y. Martinez	Surveillance Team Leader, CBFO Technical Assistance Contractor (CTAC)
J. Walsh	Surveillance Team Member, CTAC
B. Boyko	Surveillance Team Member, CTAC

Surveillance Scope:

The scope of the surveillance was to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the NWP Hoisting Operations with respect to the requirements of the CBFO Quality Assurance Program. The surveillance team also evaluated and verified the implementation and effectiveness of applicable NWP implementing procedures.

Governing Documents/Requirements:

- DOE/CBFO-94-1012, *Quality Assurance Program Document*
- WP 13-1, *NWP Quality Assurance Program Description*
- WP 04-HO1002, *Salt Handling Shaft Hoist Operation*
- WP 04-HO1003, *Waste Handling Hoist Operation*
- WP 04-HO1004, *Air Intake Shaft Operation*

Surveillance Results:

Activities Evaluated:

The surveillance team evaluated the processes required for operating the Salt Handling Shaft Hoist and the Waste Handling Hoist, and the inspection/operation of the Air Intake Shaft. Evaluations included review of training records and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act records associated with all three hoisting systems. Training records were reviewed and verified for Hoist Operators, Shaft Tenders, Toplanders, Bottomlanders, Hoist maintenance personnel, Cognizant Engineer, and Hoist Managers. The surveillance team

found that all personnel reviewed had been trained and all qualification cards were current. The records for all three hoisting systems were evaluated, including operator logbooks, waste handling and salt handling manpower reports, and hoist trip recorder charts. No discrepancies were found.

The surveillance team attended the pre-job morning meeting held by the Hoisting Supervisor. Discussions included potential hazards on the job site, equipment prerequisites, personal protective equipment requirements, any abnormal conditions discovered, and watch bill assignments. The Hoisting Supervisor utilized the current revisions of procedures WP 04-HO1003, Rev. 22, *Waste Handling Hoist Operation*, and WP 04-HO1002, Rev. 14, *Salt Handling Shaft Hoist Operation*.

The surveillance team observed the Salt Hoist start-up and the Salt Hoist collar inspection. The team verified the steps necessary for operating the Salt Handling Hoisting System were performed per WP-04-HO1002. After the work area was verified free of hazards, an inspection of the hoist top end was performed by both the Toplander and Bottomlander. A member of the surveillance team accompanied the Bottomlander on the Salt Handling Hoist to the bottom of the shaft and observed the station inspections. All communication devices, including the mine phone, bell signals, salt shaft cage phone, and site phone, were tested as they were encountered. All inspections were complete and performed in accordance with WP 04-HO1002, Rev. 14, Attachment 1. Log entries and documentation of the inspections were verified to be accurate, complete, and legible, and knowledge level of the Hoist Operators was adequate.

It was noted by the surveillance team member that the shaft signals chart posted in the salt shaft cage was cracked, with a piece missing from the bottom left corner sufficiently close to the bell codes that it was unclear to the team member whether any of the codes were missing. A comparison of the chart to a complete chart at the bottom of the shaft indicated that the bell codes were not compromised; however, the team member recommended replacement of the chart in the cage.

The surveillance team observed the start-up and operation of the Waste Handling Hoist. The team verified the steps necessary for operating the Waste Handling Hoisting System were followed per WP-04-HO1003. A member of the surveillance team accompanied the Bottomlander on the Waste Handling Hoist to the bottom of the shaft and observed the station inspections. All communication devices, including the mine phone, bell signals, cage phone, and site phone, were tested as they were encountered. All inspections were complete and performed in accordance with WP 04-HO1003, Rev. 22, Attachment 4. Log entries and documentation of the inspections were verified to be accurate, complete, and legible, and knowledge level of the hoist operators was adequate.

The surveillance team observed the start-up, operation, and inspection of the Air Intake Shaft Hoisting System. The Air Intake Shaft is used for construction/inspection and for emergency mine egress, and the hoisting system is inspected once per week. The surveillance team verified the steps necessary for operating the Air Intake Hoist were performed in accordance with WP-04-HO1004.

Overall, the surveillance team determined that the activities associated with NWP Hoisting Operations at WIPP satisfied the requirements of the CBFO Quality Assurance Program and were implemented in accordance with NWP procedures.

Corrective Actions:

None

Surveillance Team Leader: Priscilla Y. Martinez Date: 6-17-15
Priscilla Y. Martinez

Assistant Manager/Office Director: N/A Date: N/A

CBFO QA Manager Approval: Michael Brown Date: 6-17-15
Michael Brown