

United States Government

  
Department of Energy

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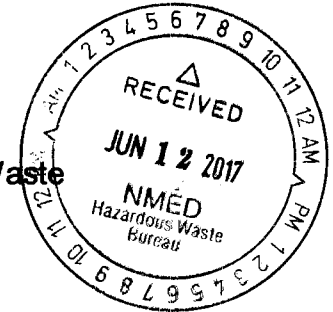
**memorandum**Carlsbad Field Office  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

DATE: JUN 12 2017

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CBFO:OQA:DSM:BA:17-1914:UFC 2300.00

SUBJECT: Certification Audit A-17-24 SNL/CCP Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste  
Characterization Activities

TO: Mr. David Rast, DOE-SNL



Please be advised that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) will conduct Audit A-17-24 of the Sandia National Laboratory/Central Characterization Program (SNL/CCP) at the Skeen-Whitlock Building in Carlsbad, NM on July 18 – 20, 2017. The audit will be conducted in accordance with the attached audit plan.

The purpose of the audit is to determine whether SNL/CCP remote-handled (RH) transuranic waste characterization activities should be certified by CBFO as waste eligible for disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

Representatives from the DOE CBFO and the New Mexico Environment Department may be present to observe the audit. In addition, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency may conduct an independent inspection of the SNL/CCP and/or an inspection of the CBFO audit process.

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

Dennis S. Miehl  
Senior Quality Assurance Specialist

Attachment



Mr. David Rast

-2-

JUN 12 2017

cc: w/attachment

S. Ross, EM-3.113	*ED
J. Carswell, CBFO	ED
M. Brown, CBFO	ED
J.R. Stroble, CBFO	ED
M. Navarrete, CBFO	ED
M. Fineran, CBFO	ED
M. Stapleton, CBFO	ED
G. Birge, CBFO	ED
N. Castaneda, CBFO	ED
T. Carver, CBFO	ED
H. Cruickshank, CBFO	ED
B. Covert, NWP	ED
J. Britain, NWP	ED
F. Sharif, NWP	ED
M. Percy, NWP	ED
R. Lee, NWP	ED
R. Kantrowitz, NWP	ED
A.J. Fisher, NWP	ED
B. Pace, NWP	ED
C. Simmons, NWP	ED
B. Schrock, NWP	ED
J. Harvill, NWP	ED
J. Carter, NWP	ED
M. McDaniel, NWP	ED
V. Ballew, NWP	ED
S. Punchios, NWP	ED
A. Boyea, NWP	ED
J. Walsh, EPA	ED
J. Ellis, EPA	ED
T. Peake, EPA	ED
E. Feltcorn, EPA	ED
R. Joglekar, EPA	ED
J. Kieling, NMED	ED
R. Maestas, NMED	ED
D. Biswell, NMED	ED
P. Martinez, CTAC	ED
C. Castillo, CTAC	ED
M. Lerach, CTAC	ED
P. Gomez, CTAC	ED
D. Harvill, CTAC	ED
G. White, CTAC	ED
Site Documents	ED

CBFO QA File

CBFO M&RC

\*ED denotes electronic distribution

## CARLSBAD FIELD OFFICE

**Audit Number:** A-17-24

**Organization to be Audited:** Sandia National Laboratory (SNL), Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP)  
Central Characterization Program (CCP)

**Organizations to be Notified:** SNL  
NWP  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Date and Location:** July 18 – July 20, 2017  
Carlsbad, New Mexico

**Audit Team:** Dennis S. Miehlis                      Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO)  
Management Representative  
Paul C. Gomez                                      Audit Team Leader, CBFO Technical  
Assistance Contractor (CTAC)

### Audit Scope:

The audit team will evaluate the adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the technical and quality assurance (QA) activities performed by CCP at the Sandia host site location for characterization and certification of remote-handled (RH) Summary Category Group S5000 debris waste.

CCP operations at Sandia have been discontinued and no transuranic (TRU) waste characterization activities have been performed at SNL since 2014. There is no certified equipment at SNL. Certification activities for RH waste are also currently suspended by the host site.

The audit team will evaluate available documentation in support of TRU waste characterization activities performed at SNL from the certification audit (Audit A-15-25, conducted August 18 – 20, 2015 through A-17-10, conducted November 15-17, 2016), complete applicable C6 checklists, and review objective evidence.

The audit will be performed in the Skeen-Whitlock Building in Carlsbad, New Mexico. See the attachment, Processes and Equipment to be Reviewed During Audit A-17-24 of SNL/CCP, for a list of items that will be evaluated.

**Governing Documents/Requirements:**

Evaluation of the overall program adequacy and effectiveness of SNL/CCP documents will be based on the current revisions of the following documents:

- *CBFO Quality Assurance Program Document, DOE/CBFO-94-1012*
- *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit*
- *Transuranic Waste Acceptance Criteria for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, DOE/WIPP-02-3122*
  
- *Remote-Handled TRU Waste Characterization Program Implementation Plan*
  
- *WIPP Documented Safety Analysis, Chapter 18*

Programmatic and technical checklists will be developed from the current revisions of the following documents:

- *CCP Transuranic Waste Characterization Quality Assurance Project Plan, CCP-PO-001*
- *CCP Transuranic Waste Certification Plan, CCP-PO-002*
- *Related CCP QA and technical implementing procedures*

**Activities to be Audited:**

**General**

- Results of previous audits
- Changes in programs or operations
- New programs or activities being implemented
- Changes in key personnel

**Quality Assurance**

General areas from section C6-1 of the Permit:

- Nonconformances
- Personnel Qualification and Training
- Records

**Technical Activities**

- Generator and Project-Level Data Validation and Verification
- Acceptable Knowledge
- Visual Examination
- Nondestructive Assay (Dose-to-Curie)
- Waste Certification (e.g., Waste Stream Profile Form)
- WIPP Waste Information System/Waste Data System

**Schedule of Audit Activities:**

A pre-audit conference is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.


If needed, the audit team leader will conduct a management briefing with appropriate SNL/CCP management Wednesday and Thursday, July 19 and 20, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

A post-audit conference is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 3:00 p.m.

All meetings will take place at the designated locations in the Skeen-Whitlock Building in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Prepared by:   
Paul C. Gomez, CTAC  
Audit Team Leader

Date: June 6, 2017

Concurrence:   
Michael R. Brown, Director  
CBFO Office of Quality Assurance

Date: 6/8/2017

**Processes and Equipment to be Reviewed During Audit A-17-24 of SNL/CCP**

WIPP #	Process/Equipment Description	Applicable to the Following Summary Category Groups	Currently Approved by NMED	Currently Approved by EPA
The following will be evaluated during CBFO Audit A-17-24				
20RHVE1	Visual Examination CCP-TP-500, CCP Remote-Handled Waste Visual Examination	Debris (S5000)	No	No
N/A	Acceptable Knowledge CCP-TP-005, CCP Acceptable Knowledge Documentation	Debris (S5000)	No	No
N/A	Data Verification and Validation CCP-TP-500, CCP Remote-Handled Waste Visual Examination CCP-TP-504, CCP Dose-to-Curie Survey Procedure for Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste	Debris (S5000)	No	No
20DTC1	Dose-to-Curie CCP-TP-504, CCP Dose-to-Curie Survey Procedure for Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste	Debris (S5000)	N/A	No
N/A	Quality Assurance	N/A	N/A	Yes
N/A	WIPP Waste Information System (WWIS)/Waste Data System (WDS)	N/A	No	No