



National Nuclear Security Administration

Sandia Site Office

P.O. Box 5400

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400



JUL 0 2 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. James Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Road East
Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



Dear Mr. Bearzi:

On behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE) and Sandia Corporation (Sandia), DOE is providing you with a notification of continued detections of chromium that exceed the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maximum contaminant level (MCL) at groundwater monitoring well MWL-MW1 located at the Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) at Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL/NM) (EPA ID No. NM5890110518). Although this is not a new release under Section V of the Compliance Order on Consent, DOE and Sandia are providing these data for your information.

Under Section IV.D of the Compliance Order on Consent, DOE and Sandia are required to complete the Corrective Measures Study process for the MWL. Groundwater samples from the study area are collected annually and submitted for metal analysis using EPA Method SW846 6020. All samples referenced below were analyzed for total metals (unfiltered).

The April 2007 sampling event of MWL-MW1 revealed chromium has exceeded the MCL (0.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L)), with a value of 0.426 mg/L.

Historically, as described in annual groundwater monitoring reports previously submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), results from off-site laboratory analyses of groundwater from monitoring wells MWL-MW1, MWL-MW2, and MWL-MW3 have exceeded the MCL for chromium. The chromium concentration in MWL-MW1 was 0.326 mg/L and 0.26 mg/L in a sample split in April 1998 and in MWL-MW2 the chromium result was 0.162 mg/L in April 2002. Chromium results from MWL-MW1 for April 2006 and the June 14, 2006 reanalysis (0.219 mg/L and 0.232 [estimated] mg/L, respectively) also exceeded the MCL. The chromium concentration (April 2006) in MWL-MW3 exceeded the MCL with a value of 0.133 mg/L (reanalysis of 0.169 mg/L). MWL monitoring well locations are shown in Figure 1.

Sandia attributes the presence of elevated chromium concentrations in the groundwater collected from these wells to the degradation of the stainless steel well screen material (Sandia National

James Bearzi

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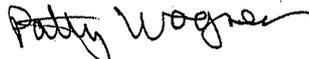
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Laboratories, December 2002. "Mixed Waste Landfill Groundwater Report 1990 through 2001," Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico.). Literature sources have determined that stainless steel screen material has been responsible for chromium concentrations in groundwater collected from wells constructed with stainless steel screens. Groundwater monitoring wells MWL-MW1, -MW2, -MW3, and -BW1, were completed with stainless steel screens, and occasionally show elevated chromium concentrations. Groundwater monitoring wells MWL-MW4, MWL-MW5, and MWL-MW6 are completed with PVC screens, and do not show elevated chromium concentrations. The presence of chromium in MWL wells with stainless steel screens was addressed in the public hearing associated with the MWL remedy selection process.

Sandia will continue to perform annual sampling at all MWL groundwater monitoring wells to evaluate the chromium concentrations, as required by Table XI-1 of the Compliance Order on Consent, and will continue to report the results and trends to NMED.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 845-6036, or Dan Pellegrino of my staff at (505) 845-5398.

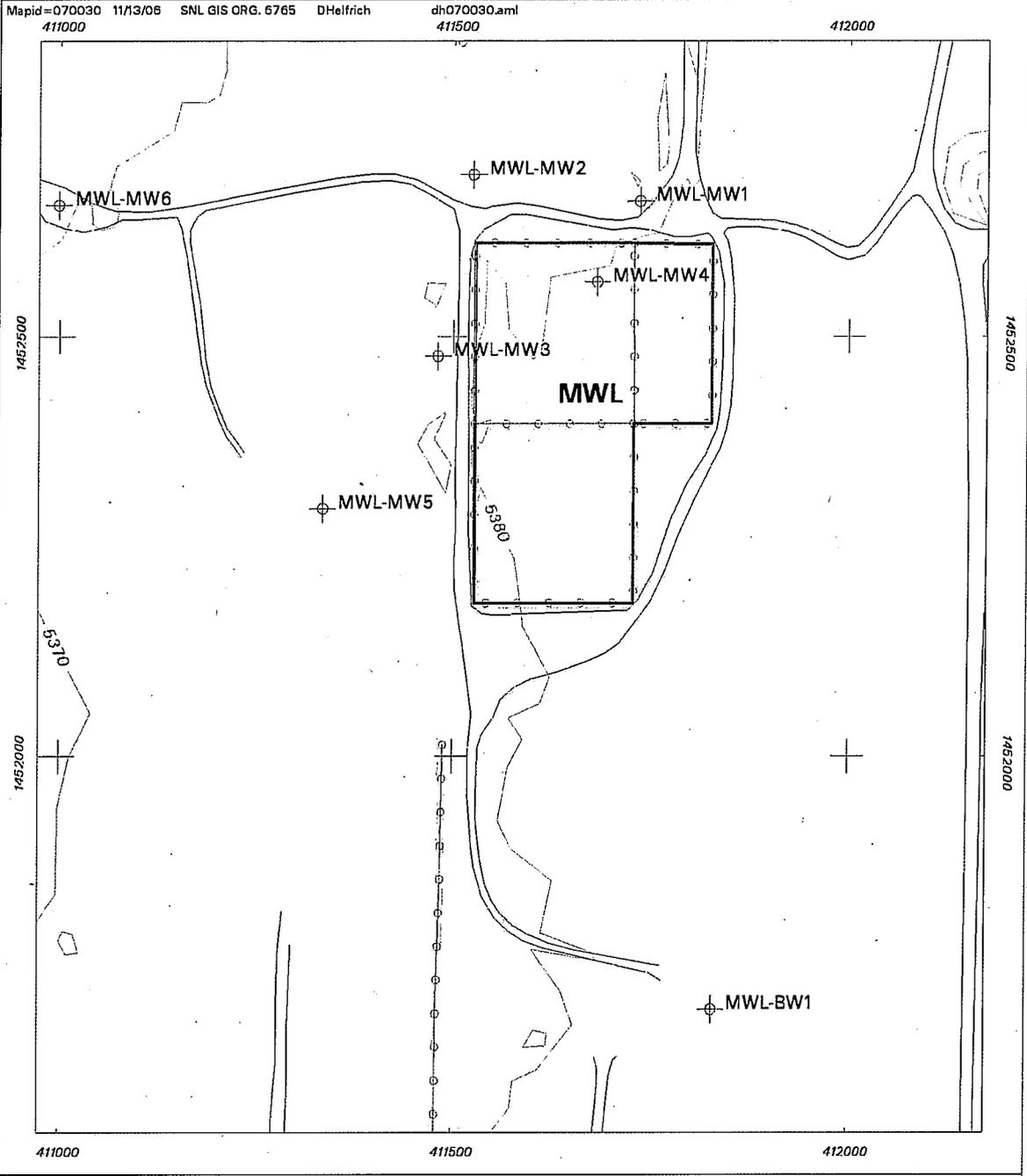
Sincerely,



Patty Wagner
Manager

cc:

W. Moats, NMED
T. Skibitski, NMED-OB
L. King, EPA, Region 6
A. Blumberg, SNL/NM, MS 0141
D. Miller, SNL/NM, MS 0718
J. P. Freshour, SNL/NM, MS 1087
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T. Goering, SNL/NM, MS 1089
S. Griffith, SNL/NM, MS 1087
T. Longo, HQ/GTN, NA-56
J. Estrada, SSO



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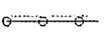
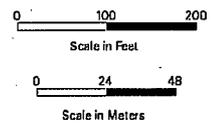
-  Monitoring well
-  10-ft. Contour
-  Road
-  Fence
-  Mixed Waste Landfill

Figure 1
Monitoring Wells in the
Vicinity of the
Mixed Waste Landfill



CERTIFICATION STATEMENT FOR APPROVAL AND FINAL RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS

Document title: **Notification of Chromium Concentrations in Well MWL-MW1
June 2007**

Document author: **Stacy Griffith, Dept. 6765**

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision according to a system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: Francis B. Nimick
Francis B. Nimick
Deputy Director to
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Operator

6/20/07
Date

and

Signature: Patty Wagner
Patty Wagner
Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Sandia Site Office
Owner and Co-Operator

7-2-07
Date