 **ENTERED**  
February 16, 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Carl Will  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau  
2044 Galisteo  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

FEB 16 1998



RE: Person Generating Station (NMT 360010342) Natural Pit Area - Supplemental Total and Hexavalent Chromium Sampling Results

Dear Mr. Will:

Per your January 7, 1998, letter request for additional information, enclosed are the laboratory analytical results for the recent sampling activities at the Person Generating Station Natural Pit Area. Five soil samples were collected in the area of the highest total chromium concentration (i.e., hot spot area) at a depth of approximately 2 inches below the existing pit surface. These samples were analyzed for total chromium and hexavalent chromium.

The results indicate that all five samples are below analytical reporting limits for hexavalent chromium. Three of the five samples are below the site background total chromium concentration of 10.68 mg/kg (consistent with previous results). Sampling locations and corresponding chromium concentrations are shown in the enclosed figure.

The sampling results indicate that the potential for surface water or groundwater contamination is negligible, and supports our previous position that Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) has complied with the intent of the approved remediation workplan for the Natural Pit Area. However, we understand NMED's position as to the strict interpretation of the Statement of Basis associated with the Class III permit modification obtained from EPA in 1995. Therefore, it is our intent to proceed with the preparation of a sampling proposal to support risk based closure and no further action. We will begin preparation of a proposal for NMED review in the near future.

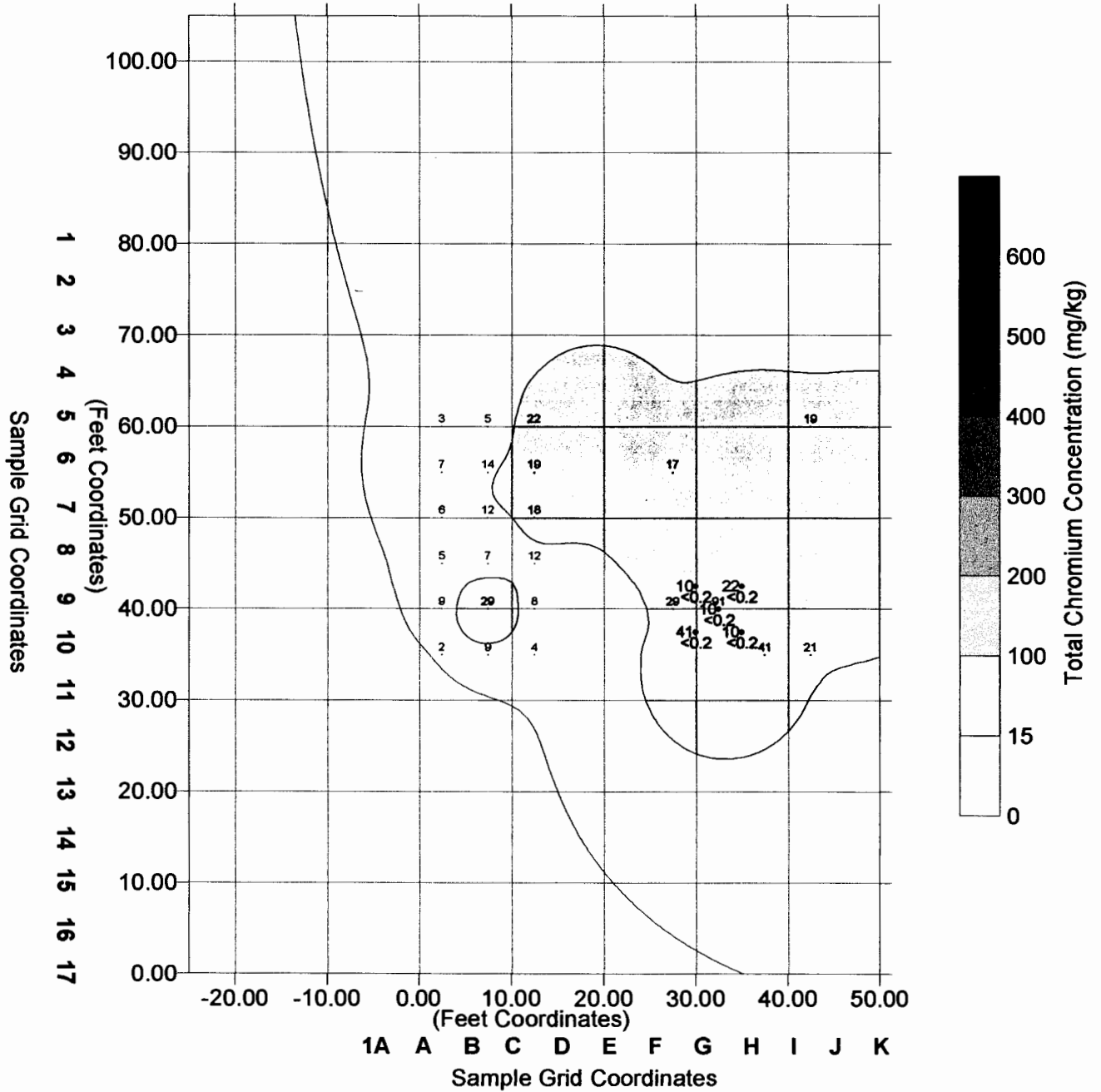
If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 241-2998.

Sincerely,

  
Ron Johnson  
Technical Group Leader

enclosure

**Total Chromium Results  
 Person Station - Natural Pit Area  
 Verification Sampling - After Excavation Of 4 Feet of Soil  
 April 22, 1996 and January 8, 1998**



January 8, 1998 sample results are shown in red (total Cr) and blue (Cr VI)