



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION



J. R. Stroble
Director, National TRU Program
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88221

Dear Mr. Stroble:

This is in response to your February 23, 2011, request for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) concurrence on the Department of Energy's (DOE) draft recertification letter of the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP), transuranic (TRU) waste characterization program at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) for contact-handled (CH) debris and solid waste. Your request is in accordance with the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) procedures that are intended to ensure that DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) site certifications correlate appropriately with EPA approvals for waste characterization activities at DOE TRU waste generator sites.

DOE's draft recertification of the AMWTP is based on the recent CBFO audit covering characterization activities for CH debris waste (S5000) and solid waste (S3000). EPA issued a baseline approval of the waste characterization program at the AMWTP on October 3, 2006 (See A-98-49; II-A4-66 in the EPA Air Docket). On March 16, 2009, EPA concurred with the draft certification expansion to implement a modified real time radiography operations procedure for boxes. Nothing has changed since that concurrence. We concur that DOE's latest draft recertification letter comports with all of EPA's existing approvals for contact-handled TRU waste (debris and solids) at AMWTP.

Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to review the draft recertification letter for AMWTP. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (202) 343-9422.

Sincerely,

Edward Feltcorn
Center for Waste Management and Regulations



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