



**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA)  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

EMLA-2021-0002-02-001

November 5, 2020

Mr. Kevin Pierard  
Bureau Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6313

Subject: Request for Certificates of Completion for 16 Solid Waste Management Units and  
9 Areas of Concern in the Upper Mortandad Canyon Aggregate Area

Dear Mr. Pierard:

In accordance with Section XXI of the Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) is requesting certificates of completion without controls for the following 15 solid waste management units (SWMUs) and 9 areas of concern (AOCs) within the Upper Mortandad Canyon Aggregate Area:

- AOC 03-004(c), Storage Area
- AOC 03-004(d), Storage Area
- AOC 03-007, Firing Site
- SWMU 03-045(h), Outfall from Cooling Tower 3-187
- SWMU 03-054(e), Outfall from Building 3-29
- AOC C-03-006, Spill/Non-Intentional Release Area
- AOC 35-016(g), Drain and Outfall from Building 35-213
- AOC 35-016(h), Storm Drains and Outfall associated with Building 35-213
- SWMU 42-001(a), Soil Contamination from Former Incinerator Building 42-1
- SWMU 42-001(b), Soil Contamination from Former Ash Storage Tank
- SWMU 42-001(c), Soil Contamination from Former Ash Storage Tank
- AOC 42-002(a), Soil Contamination from Former Vacublasters and Storage Area
- SWMU 42-002(b), Soil Contamination from Former Decontamination Area
- SWMU 42-003, Soil Contamination from Former Septic System
- AOC 48-001, Air-Exhaust System
- SWMU 48-003, Soil Contamination associated with Former Septic System
- SWMU 48-007(b), Outfall from Building 48-1
- SWMU 48-007(c), Outfall from Building 48-1
- SWMU 48-007(f), Outfall from building 48-46

- AOC 48-011, Disposal Shaft
- SWMU 50-004(a), Soil Contamination from Former Waste Lines
- SWMU 50-004(b), Soil Contamination from Former Vault and Tanks
- SWMU 50-004(c), Soil Contamination from Former Waste Lines and Manholes
- SWMU 50-006(a), Operational Release

SWMUs 03-045(h), 03-054(e), 42-001(a), 42-001(b), 42-001(c), 42-002(b), 42-003, 48-003, 48-007(b), 48-007(c), 48-007(f), 50-004(a), 50-004(b), 50-004(c), and 50-006(a), and AOCs 03-004(c), 03-004(d), 03-007, C-03-006, 35-016(g), 35-016(h), 42-002(a), 48-001, and 48-011 were recommended for corrective action complete without controls in the “Supplemental Investigation Report for Upper Mortandad Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1” (hereafter the SIR) (EM2020-0252). The SIR concluded the nature and extent of contamination are defined or no further sampling is warranted at SWMUs 03-045(h), 03-054(e), 42-001(a), 42-001(b), 42-001(c), 42-002(b), 42-003, 48-003, 48-007(b), 48-007(c), 48-007(f), 50-004(a), 50-004(b), 50-004(c), and 50-006(a), and AOCs 03-004(c), 03-004(d), 03-007, C-03-006, 35-016(g), 35-016(h), 42-002(a), and 48-001. In addition, the SIR concluded that the above-mentioned SWMUs and AOCs pose no potential unacceptable risks or doses to human health under the industrial, construction worker, or residential scenarios (including vapor intrusion for the residential scenario) and pose no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors. The SIR also concluded the nature and extent of contamination are defined or no further sampling is warranted at AOC 48-011; and no complete exposure pathways from soil exist to human or ecological receptors under the industrial, construction worker, or residential scenarios; and the site poses no unacceptable risk under the residential vapor intrusion scenario. Therefore, neither site controls nor additional future actions under the Consent Order are necessary at these 24 sites.

In addition, DOE is requesting a certificate of completion with controls for the following SWMU:

- SWMU 03-049(e), Outfall

The SIR concluded the nature and extent of contamination are defined or no further sampling is warranted at SWMU 03-049(e). In addition, the SIR concluded that SWMU 03-049(e) poses no potential unacceptable risk or dose to human health under the industrial and construction worker scenarios and poses no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors. The site does pose potential unacceptable human health risk under the residential scenario. Therefore, site controls to prevent future residential land use are necessary at this site.

The SIR, including the recommendations for corrective action complete for the above-listed 25 sites, was approved in the New Mexico Environment Department’s “Approval Supplemental Investigation Report for Upper Mortandad Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1,” dated September 9, 2020 (HWB-LANL-15-065).

If you have any questions, please contact Kent Rich at (505) 660-6570 (kent.rich@em-la.doe.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 257-7941 (cheryl.rodriguez@em.doe.gov).

Sincerely,

**Arturo Duran**

Digitally signed by Arturo  
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Date: 2020.10.28 07:17:45  
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Arturo Q. Duran  
Compliance and Permitting Manager  
Environmental Management  
Los Alamos Field Office

CC (date-stamped letter emailed):

Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX

Chris Catechis, NMED-DOE-OB

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**Pamela T. Maestas**

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**From:** Martinez, Cynthia, NMENV <cynthia.martinez1@state.nm.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 7:46 AM  
**To:** Pamela T. Maestas  
**Subject:** RE: Submittal to NMED on 11/5/2020 of Request for COCs for Upper Mortandad, 25 Sites

Received

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**From:** Pamela T. Maestas <pamela.maestas@em-la.doe.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 5, 2020 11:36 AM  
**To:** Pierard, Kevin, NMENV <Kevin.Pierard@state.nm.us>  
**Cc:** Dhawan, Neelam, NMENV <neelam.dhawan@state.nm.us>; Emily M. Day <Emily.Day@em-la.doe.gov>; Regulatory Documentation <RegDocs@EM-LA.DOE.GOV>; Martinez, Cynthia, NMENV <cynthia.martinez1@state.nm.us>; cheryl.rodriquez@em.doe.gov; Kent Rich <kent.rich@em-la.doe.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Submittal to NMED on 11/5/2020 of Request for COCs for Upper Mortandad, 25 Sites

Mr. Pierard,

Attached for submittal is a pdf of the following:

- Request for Certificates of Completion for 16 Solid Waste Management Units and 9 Areas of Concern in the Upper Mortandad Canyon Aggregate Area (EMLA-2021-0002-02-001)

Please acknowledge receipt of this submittal by responding to this email.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

**Pamela T. Maestas**

**Regulatory Documentation Manager**

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