



N3B-Los Alamos
1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 150
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(505) 257-7690



Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office
1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 400
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544
(240) 562-1122

Date: October 29, 2021
Refer To: N3B-2021-0328

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

Subject: Energy Solutions Waste Shipment Corrective Actions Effectiveness Review

Dear Mr. Maestas:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) of the results of the effectiveness review of the corrective action measures put in place by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) and Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC (N3B) as a result of the root cause analysis performed on an inaccurately characterized 2020 waste shipment to Energy Solutions (refer to N3B-2020-0304). The purpose of the effectiveness review was to determine if the corrective actions put in place were successful at resolving and preventing recurrence. The effectiveness review shows that the corrective actions have resulted in the effective prevention of future inaccurate characterization of wastes. Similar waste streams have not been generated since the corrective actions were implemented, and no other inaccurate characterizations of waste have been identified.

As previously communicated to NMED, the immediate corrective actions included a fact-finding, an extent-of-condition review for similar waste streams, and clarification of roles and responsibilities regarding the shipping program ownership. The goal of implementing these corrective actions was to strengthen the organization and ensure accurate waste characterization going forward. In addition, EM-LA/N3B revised the current waste characterization process, provided training for all personnel involved in waste generation and disposition, and implemented two standing orders in order to address the communication and characterization weaknesses identified in current procedures.

These corrective actions underwent a focused effectiveness review, which covered the following:

- Review of associated documentation:
 - verification of corrective action completion
 - verification of corrective action time to complete
 - evidence of corrective action closure.
- Review of how the corrective action was applied:
 - verification of adequate communication of required actions throughout the organization
 - verification of adequate training throughout the organization
 - verification of clear roles and responsibilities communicated to the organization
 - verification of the continued implementation of the corrective action as appropriate.

Based on this process, all of the corrective actions were verified to have been completed, adequate, and effective in preventing the reoccurrence of inaccurate characterization of waste.

If you have questions, please contact Emily Day (505) 695-4243 (emily.day@em-la.doe.gov) or M. Lee Bishop at (702) 218-4460 (lee.bishop@em.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Joseph Murdock
Program Manager
Environment, Safety and Health
N3B-Los Alamos

Sincerely,

M Lee Bishop Digitally signed by M Lee Bishop
Date: 2021.10.27 14:28:02 -06'00'

M. Lee Bishop, Director
Office of Quality and Regulatory Compliance
U.S. Department of Energy
Environmental Management
Los Alamos Field Office

cc (letter emailed):

Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX
Chris Catechis, NMED-DOE-OB/-RPD
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB
Siona Briley, NMED-HWB
Neelam Dhawan, NMED-HWB
Janine Kraemer, NMED-HWB
Peter Maggiore, NA-LA
M. Lee Bishop, EM-LA
Arturo Duran, EM-LA
John Evans, EM-LA
Michael Mikolanis, EM-LA
David Nickless, EM-LA
Cheryl Rodriguez, EM-LA
Jennifer Payne, LANL
William Alexander, N3B

Larry Baker, N3B
Sharon Brady, N3B
Emily Day, N3B
Ellen Gammon, N3B
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Debby Holgerson, N3B
Jeff Holland, N3B
Kim Lebak, N3B
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Dana Lindsay, N3B
Pamela Maestas, N3B
Jason Moore, N3B
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Joseph Noll, N3B
Gerald O’Leary III, N3B
Tashia Owen, N3B
Vincent Rodriguez, N3B
Frank Tarantello, N3B
Troy Thomson, N3B
Jennifer von Rohr, N3B
emla.docs@em.doe.gov
n3brecords@em-la.doe.gov
Public Reading Room (EPRR)
PRS website

Pamela T. Maestas

From: Martinez, Cynthia, NMENV <cynthia.martinez1@state.nm.us>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:15 AM
To: Pamela T. Maestas
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Submittal to NMED on 10/29/2021 of Energy Solutions Waste Shpmnt Corr Act Effectiveness

Received.
Thank you.

From: Pamela T. Maestas <pamela.maestas@em-la.doe.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 2:47 PM
To: Martinez, Cynthia, NMENV <cynthia.martinez1@state.nm.us>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Submittal to NMED on 10/29/2021 of Energy Solutions Waste Shpmnt Corr Act Effectiveness

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

And this one too please.
Thank you.

From: Pamela T. Maestas <pamela.maestas@em-la.doe.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 1:56 PM
To: 'ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us' <ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us>
Cc: 'Dhawan, Neelam, NMENV' <neelam.dhawan@state.nm.us>; 'siona.briley@state.nm.us' <siona.briley@state.nm.us>; 'Schatz, Mitchell, NMENV' <Mitchell.Schatz@state.nm.us>; 'Chris.Catechis@state.nm.us' <Chris.Catechis@state.nm.us>; 'Petersen, Michael, NMENV' <Michael.Petersen@state.nm.us>; 'Martinez, Cynthia, NMENV' <cynthia.martinez1@state.nm.us>; Emily M. Day <Emily.Day@em-la.doe.gov>; Regulatory Documentation <RegDocs@EM-LA.DOE.GOV>; lee.bishop@em.doe.gov; Larry P. Baker <Larry.Baker@em-la.doe.gov>; Jennifer Von Rohr <Jennifer.VonRohr@EM-LA.DOE.GOV>
Subject: Submittal to NMED on 10/29/2021 of Energy Solutions Waste Shpmnt Corr Act Effectiveness

Mr. Maestas,

Attached for submittal is a pdf file of the following:

- Energy Solutions Waste Shipment Corrective Actions Effectiveness Review (N3B-2021-0328)

Please acknowledge receipt of this submittal by responding to this email. Hard copies will be taken to you Monday.
Let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you.

Pamela T. Maestas

Acting Director

**Document Control, Records Management,
and Regulatory Documentation**

Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos, LLC

For Regulatory Documentation requests: regdocs@em-la.doe.gov

c. 505-927-7882



1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 150
Los Alamos, NM 87544