

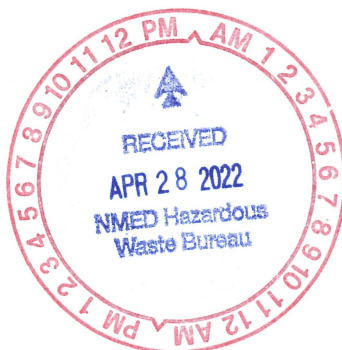


**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA)  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

EMLA-2022-BF075-02-001

April 28, 2022

Mr. Rick Shean  
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 20 Solid Waste Management Units and 2 Areas of Concern in the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area

Dear Mr. Shean:

In accordance with Section XXI of the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is requesting certificates of completion without controls for the following 14 solid waste management units (SWMUs) and 2 areas of concern (AOCs) within the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area:

- SWMU 33-004(b), Septic System
- SWMU 33-004(d), Septic System
- SWMU 33-004(g), Drainline and Outfall associated with Building 33-16
- SWMU 33-004(j), Outfall from Building 33-26
- SWMU 33-004(m), Septic Tank and Leach Field
- SWMU 33-005(a), Soil Contamination from Former Septic System
- SWMU 33-007(b), Firing Sites
- SWMU 33-009, Surface Disposal Site
- SWMU 33-010(f), Surface Disposal Site (Material Disposal Area K)
- SWMU 33-010(h), Surface Disposal Site
- AOC 33-011(b), Storage Area
- SWMU 33-011(c), Storage Area
- SWMU 33-011(e), Storage Area
- SWMU 33-014, Burn Site
- SWMU 33-016, Sump
- AOC C-33-003, Soil Contamination

SWMUs 33-004(b), 33-004(d), 33-004(g), 33-004(j), 33-004(m), 33-005(a), 33-007(b), 33-009, 33-010(f), 33-010(h), 33-011(c), 33-011(e), 33-014, and 33-016 and AOCs 33-011(b) and C-33-003 were recommended for corrective action complete without controls in the "Investigation Report for Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area," (hereafter the IR) (EM2020-0305). The IR confirms the nature and extent of contamination are defined, or no further sampling is warranted at SWMUs 33-004(b), 33-004(d), 33-004(g), 33-004(j), 33-004(m), 33-005(a), 33-007(b), 33-009, 33-010(f), 33-010(h),

33-011(c), 33-011(e), 33-014, and 33-016 as well as AOCs 33-011(b) and C-33-003. In addition, the IR demonstrates that the above-mentioned SWMUs and AOCs pose no potential unacceptable risks or doses to human health under the residential, construction worker, and as applicable, industrial scenarios. They also pose no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors. Therefore, neither site controls nor additional future actions under the Consent Order are necessary at these 16 sites.

In addition, DOE is requesting certificates of completion with controls for the following six SWMUs within the Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area:

- SWMU 33-004(h), Drainline and Outfall associated with Building 33-20
- SWMU 33-005(b), Soil Contamination from Former Drainline
- SWMU 33-005(c), Soil Contamination from Former Waste Line and Leach Field
- SWMU 33-008(a), Landfill
- SWMU 33-010(g), Surface Disposal Site
- SWMU 33-015, Incinerator

SWMUs 33-004(h), 33-005(b), 33-005(c), 33-008(a), 33-010(g), and 33-015 were recommended for corrective action complete with controls in the IR. The IR confirms that the nature and extent of contamination are defined, or no further sampling is warranted at SWMUs 33-004(h), 33-005(b), 33-005(c), 33-008(a), 33-010(g), and 33-015. In addition, the IR concluded that these six SWMUs pose no potential unacceptable risk or dose to human health under the construction worker, and as applicable, industrial scenarios and pose no potential unacceptable risk to ecological receptors. The sites do pose potential unacceptable human health risk under the residential scenario. Therefore, site controls to prevent future residential land use are necessary at these sites.

The IR was submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on September 30, 2020. NMED reviewed the IR and provided draft comments to DOE on May 3, 2021. DOE submitted responses to NMED's comments via email on June 16, 2021. Comments and responses were further discussed during a July 15, 2021, teleconference between DOE and NMED. Based on this teleconference, DOE provided NMED with revised responses to the comments on September 9, 2021. NMED determined that DOE had resolved all comments. None of the comment responses affected the conclusions or recommendations for corrective action complete for the above-listed 22 sites. The IR, including the recommendations for corrective action complete for these sites, was approved in NMED's letter "Approval Investigation Report for Chaquehui Canyon Aggregate Area, Revision 1," dated September 29, 2021 (HWB-LANL-20-070).

If you have any questions, please contact Kent Rich at (505) 660-6570 (kent.rich@em-la.doe.gov) or Cheryl Rodriguez at (505) 414-0450 (cheryl.rodriguez@em.doe.gov).

Sincerely,

**ARTURO  
DURAN**

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Arturo Q. Duran  
Compliance and Permitting Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Environmental Management  
Los Alamos Field Office

cc (letter and enclosure[s] emailed):  
Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-DOE-OB  
Chris Catechis NMED-RPD  
Neelam Dhawan, NMED-HWB  
Jennifer Payne, LANL  
Stephen Hoffman, NA-LA  
William Alexander, N3B  
Emily Day, N3B  
Michael Erickson, N3B  
Jeff Holland, N3B  
Kim Lebak, N3B  
Joseph Legare, N3B  
Dana Lindsay, N3B  
Pamela Maestas, N3B  
Joseph Murdock, N3B  
Kent Rich, N3B  
Troy Thomson, N3B  
M. Lee Bishop, EM-LA  
John Evans, EM-LA  
Michael Mikolanis, EM-LA  
David Nickless, EM-LA  
Cheryl Rodriguez, EM-LA  
emla.docs@em.doe.gov  
n3brecords@em-la.doe.gov  
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