



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY  
P.O. BOX 268  
FORT WINGATE, NM 87316

October 27, 2010

Mr. James P. Bearzi  
Chief, Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has performed routine maintenance on two groundwater/decontamination water evaporation tanks at Fort Wingate Depot Activity (FWDA). This tank has been in use for approximately 2 years. Periodically, the tank requires maintenance to change out the Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) liner to prevent leaks and to remove sediment buildup.

There are two tanks dedicated for purge and decontamination water; only one of these tanks was previously fitted with a liner to be utilized as an evaporate tank, referred to as the South tank. In order to perform maintenance on the South tank, the North tank (previously unused) was lined with LDPE October 16, 2010. Once the liner was installed in the North tank, purge and decontamination water was pumped from the South tank to the newly lined North tank. After this water was removed, sediment and soil samples were collected from the South tank to document that there are no hazardous waste concerns with the liner and sediment/soil.

USACE collected eight samples. Four sediment samples were collected from the accumulated sediment in the South tank. These samples were submitted to a laboratory for Toxic Characteristics Leaching Procedure (TCLP) analysis, total metal analysis, perchlorate analysis, and total explosives analysis. Four additional samples were collected from the sand used to fill sand bags and analyzed the same as the sediment. Sand bags were used in the design of the evaporation tank to protect the liner in corners and to hold the liner in place. These sand bags were filled with "clean" sand that was purchased from an off-site source for specific use in sand bags.

When analytical results are received documenting that sediment and sand are non-hazardous and constituents are below New Mexico Soil Screening Level (SSL), the Army proposes to discard the LDPE liner as normal refuse. The Army also proposes to remove the sand bags from this evaporation tank and thin spread the sand around the area of the evaporation tank.

If you have questions or require further information, please call me at (330) 358-7312.

Sincerely,



Mark Patterson  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator

CF:

Dave Cobrain, NMED, HWB  
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