



ESHID-603693

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. KENNEY
CABINET SECRETARY

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

April 27, 2022

Ted Wyka, Manager
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Field Office
3747 West Jemez Road, A 316
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Jennifer Payne, Division Leader
Environmental Protection and Compliance Division
Los Alamos National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, MS-K491
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION TO DESTROY UNSTABLE HAZARDOUS WASTE
EMERGENCY PERMIT 2022-02
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY
EPA ID# NM0890010515**

Dear Mr. Wyka and Ms. Payne:

The New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") authorized Los Alamos National Laboratory ("LANL") Emergency Response team to destroy unstable hazardous waste that LANL determined posed an imminent and substantial health and safety risk. The waste covered by this authorization was identified by e-mail from LANL on April 20, 2022. The waste consisted of an unstable 1-liter container of tetrahydrofuran, which was identified while performing a routine assessment of time-sensitive chemical containers at TA-48, Building 1.

LANL's Emergency Responders determined that the container was unstable due to an unsafe accumulation of peroxides and that the safest response was onsite emergency treatment in a total containment vessel. NMED authorized the treatment of this unstable hazardous waste in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC.

Emergency destruction of waste materials is allowed when performed in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC, incorporating 40 CFR § 270.1(c)(3), under an emergency permit issued by NMED in accordance with 20.4.1.900 NMAC incorporating 40 CFR § 270.61. LANL must properly dispose of any hazardous residues that remain after the destruction. LANL must also submit a report to NMED detailing the specific activities conducted to render this waste inert under this emergency permit within five days after the emergency activity was completed, or no later than April 25, 2022.

Based upon the 5-day final report, received by NMED on April 25, 2022, treatment was conducted at TA-48 in accordance with Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations §270.61 on April 20, 2022, at 7:42 p.m. The emergency treatment was conducted in a vessel; therefore, there was no release to the environment as a result of the emergency treatment. As reported, the destruction was completed in a

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Hazardous Waste Bureau - 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
Telephone (505) 476-6000 - www.env.nm.gov

Ted Wyka and Jennifer Payne

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controlled and safe manner and no residue or other hazardous materials remained after treatment. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Connolly at 505-470-8495.

Sincerely,

Rick Shean

Digitally signed by Rick
Shean
Date: 2022.04.27 07:16:17
-06'00'

Rick Shean
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

RS: spc

cc:

Neelam Dhawan, NMED HWB
Stephen Connolly, NMED HWB
Siona Briley, NMED HWB
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File: 2022, LANL, Emergency Permit