



ESHID-603800

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November 2, 2023

Robert A. Gallegos, Manager  
Department of Energy-NNSA  
Los Alamos Field Office  
3747 West Jemez Rd, MS A316  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Steven L. Story, Acting Division Leader  
Environmental Protection & Compliance  
Triad National Security, L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 1663, MS K491  
Los Alamos, NM 87545

**RE: REVIEW**  
**TECHNICAL AREA 63 TRANSURANIC WASTE FACILITY SOIL VAPOR MONITORING**  
**SYSTEM REPORT, QUARTER 3, JULY 2023**  
**LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**  
**EPA ID#NM0890010515**  
**HWB-LANL-23-067**

Dear Robert Gallegos and Steven Story:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the United States Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration, Los Alamos Field Office (NA-LA) and the Triad National Security, LLC (Triad) (collectively the Permittees) *Technical Area 63, Transuranic Waste Facility Soil Vapor Monitoring System Report, Quarter 3, July 2023* (Report) dated and received September 25, 2023, and referenced by EPC-DO-23-284/LA-UR-23-30486.

Soil vapor monitoring was conducted at Technical Area 63 Transuranic Waste Facility on July 26, 2023, for the third quarter of 2023. The Report indicates that vapor concentrations for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the five (5) vapor monitoring wells (VMWs), 1 through 5, did not exceed soil-gas screening levels (SGSLs) for the identified constituents in Tables 3.14.3.1, 3.14.3.2, and 3.14.3.3 of Part 3 of the Los Alamos National Laboratory's RCRA Permit.

As stated in Section IV Analytical Results, trichloroethene (TCE) continues to exhibit the highest concentrations of all VOCs detected. VMW-4 and VMW-5, the two closest wells to Material Disposal Area (MDA) C (Figure 1), consistently have the highest concentrations of TCE, with VMW-4 at 60 feet below ground surface (bgs) with 5.4% of the SGSL this quarter. This Report also indicates that acetone was detected in VMW-1 at 18 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Similar to previous samplings, chloroform continues to be detected in VMW-4 and VMW-5 at both depths, with concentrations of chloroform being less than 0.5% of the SGSL for the third quarter of sampling for 2023.

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Hazardous Waste Bureau - 2905 Rodeo Park Drive, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505 - (505) 476-6000  
[www.env.nm.gov](http://www.env.nm.gov)

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The field blank demonstrated detections of ethanol, toluene, and xylene isomers at very low j-flagged levels. Xylene isomers were also detected in the field blanks from quarter 1 of 2019, through quarter 1 2021. A new ultra-high pure nitrogen tank replaced the previous tank starting in quarter 2 of 2021, resulting in no detectable amounts of xylene. DOE will continue to monitor the issue going forward.

NMED has reviewed the Report and has no further comments at this time.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mitchell Schatz at (505) 690-5910.

Sincerely,

**Ricardo Maestas**

Digitally signed by Ricardo  
Maestas  
Date: 2023.11.02 15:15:11 -06'00'

Ricardo Maestas  
Acting Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
M. Schatz, NMED HWB  
M. Petersen, NMED HWB  
C. Martinez, NMED HWB  
S. Yanicak, NMED DOE OB  
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File: 2023 LANL, Review Letter TA-63 TWF Soil Vapor Monitoring System Report, QTR 3, July  
2023  
LANL-23-067

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**Cc:** [Maestas, Ricardo, ENV](#); [Dhawan, Neelam, ENV](#); [Schatz, Mitchell, ENV](#); [Petersen, Michael, ENV](#); [Martinez, Caitlin, ENV](#); [Yanicak, Steve, ENV](#); [Laurie King](#); [Duran, Arturo Q.](#); [Armijo, Karen](#); [Moseley, Jessica Lee](#); [Hill, Jason Scott](#); [epc-correspondence@lanl.gov](mailto:epc-correspondence@lanl.gov); ["lasomailbox@nnsa.doe.gov"](mailto:lasomailbox@nnsa.doe.gov); [locatsteam](#); [rcra-prr@lanl.gov](mailto:rcra-prr@lanl.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Review letter to Robert Gallegos and Steven Story  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 3:52:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [LANL-23-067\\_Review\\_TA 63 SVE Report Q3\\_Sept\\_2023\\_11.02.23+RM.pdf](#)

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Good Afternoon,  
Please see attachment.

Cynthia Martinez  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Bldg.1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
505-476-6000

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