



U.S. Department of Energy

Grand Junction Office  
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Grand Junction, CO 81503

APR 24 2002

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Wendy Naugle  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Remedial Programs Section  
Hazardous Materials & Waste Management  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246-1530

Subject: Water Level Monitoring Results for the Naturita, Colorado, Disposal Cell

Dear Ms. Naugle:

In February 2002, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) measured the water level in the standpipe in the Naturita disposal cell located at Uravan, Colorado. This activity is prescribed in the Long-Term Surveillance Plan (LTSP) for the site.

The standpipe water level continues to drop slowly, as the enclosed data demonstrate. Currently, only 5 inches of water remains in the standpipe. The water may be trapped in an end cap or may be residual water in the bottom of the cell. The DOE does not have construction details for the standpipe.

The LTSP establishes that DOE will decide to discontinue monitoring and will decommission the standpipe if the water level remains static at approximately 12 inches or if it declines. As the data show, the criterion for decommissioning has been met. The DOE intends to decommission the standpipe this summer.

I also wish to inform you of a sampling error at the Naturita disposal site that was recently discovered. In 1998 and 2000, an unmarked well was mistaken for Monitor Well BR95-1. The error was corrected this year during the 2002 sampling event. Previously, DOE had indicated that BR95-1 was dry. This well actually has approximately 40 feet of water in it, which is not surprising because the two other wells completed at the Saltwash/Summerville contact also have had water in them. The DOE will correct the database and hard copy records and will submit results from the 2002 monitoring to your agency when available. Please consider annotating the monitoring results for this well that you might have in CDPHE records.

Please call me at (970) 248-6037 or Mike Widdop of MACTEC-ERS at (970) 248-6793 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Art Kleinrath  
Project Manager

Enclosure

NMSS08  
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cc w/o enclosure:

M. Fliegel, NRC

J. Sink, DOE-GJO

C. Jacobson, MACTEC-ERS

R. Heydenburg, MACTEC-ERS

M. Widdop, MACTEC-ERS

cc w/enclosure:

Project File LNAT 6.8 (A. Garcia)

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