



Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management

DEC 07 2010

Document Control Desk
Deputy Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T8F5
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Response to "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission review of the 2009 Data Validation Package and 2009 Verification Monitoring Report for the Riverton, Wyoming, Former Uranium Processing Site," letter 8/24/2010

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter provides responses to two comments from your review of the subject U.S. Department of Energy reports for the Riverton, Wyoming site (comments numbered 3 and 4). The other two comments (numbered 1 and 2) will be addressed in the next Verification Monitoring Report, as requested by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Comment number 3: "On page 8 of the data validation package, please discuss the error in the chain of custody."

Response: Although a chain-of-custody form was included with the shipment of samples that documented locations sampled, number of bottles, sample preservation, analytical tracking number, sampler name, and date and time that samples were relinquished, the sampler did not sign the chain-of-custody form as required by procedure. However, sample custody, security, and integrity were not compromised because the samplers were in control of the sample from the time of collection until the samples were shipped. This procedural noncompliance was self-identified using the field verification process that is part of data validation. This process assures quality by providing continuous feedback to management and sampling personnel to improve performance and reduce repetitive errors. Using this process, management has reinforced with staff the importance of strict compliance with procedural requirements.

Comment number 4: "Samples at well 0460 have a water temperature of 28.87 degrees Centigrade. Please discuss why the water temperature at this well is higher than other wells in the area."

2597 B 3/4 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81503

1000 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20585

10995 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, OH 45030

232 Energy Way, N. Las Vegas, NV 89030

REPLY TO: Grand Junction Office

99 Research Park Road, Morgantown, WV 26505

11025 Dover St., Suite 1000, Westminster, CO 80021

955 Mound Road, Miamisburg, OH 45342

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Response: Well 0460 is a production well that supplies water to the Chemtrade sulfuric acid plant. The sample is typically collected from a sink inside the facility, so it is not reflective of groundwater temperatures in the aquifer; rather, it reflects a temperature influenced by the piping/infrastructure in the plant.

Please contact me at (970) 248-6020 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Gil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "April" being more prominent than the last name "Gil".

April Gil, PhD
Site Manager

cc:

D. Aragon, WREQC
B. Chestnut (WREQC)
D. Goggles, WREQC
D. Luzmoor, Chemtrade
D. Orlando, NRC
T. Shakespeare, WREQC
S. Campbell, Stoller (e)