From: sachiko-w.mcalhany@nnsa.srs.gov
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2011 8:23 PM
To: Dimarzio, John A.; Eichner, John M.
Cc: drew.grainger[redacted]; virginia.kay[redacted]
Subject: Fw: Response to Data Call for Affected Env
Attachments: LA-UR-11-06207, LANL Affected Env Data Response, 963.2_SRB.docx

Sachiko

----- Forwarded by Sachiko Mcalhany/NNSA/DOE/Srs on 10/31/2011 08:23 PM -----

From: "Steven Booth" [redacted]
To: <sachiko-w.mcalhany@nnsa.srs.gov>
Cc: <lawrence.kwei[redacted]>, "'Brett Kniss'" [redacted], <drewek[redacted]>, "'Isaacson, John'" [redacted], <jnisengard[redacted]>, <smckee[redacted]>
Date: 10/28/2011 06:02 PM
Subject: Response to Data Call for Affected Env

Sachiko:

Attached is the LANL response to the affected environment data call for the SPD SEIS. It is cleared for public release. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Steve.

Steven R. Booth, Ph.D.
AET-2, Process Modeling and Analysis
Los Alamos National Laboratory
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LA-UR-11-06207
Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

Response to Data Call to Support SPD SEIS Affected Environment

Steven R. Booth
Process Modeling and Analysis, AET-2
John Isaacson
Environmental Protection Division Office, ENV-DO
Los Alamos National Laboratory

October 28, 2011

Most of the information needed to describe the affected environment at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and TA-55 Plutonium Facility (PF-4) can be obtained from readily available references such as the CMRR-NF SEIS, latest LANL annual site environmental report, latest LANL SWEIS Yearbook, and open government websites. The following questions require additional input from LANL.

A conference call with SAIC on October 17, 2011 defined the details of the questions.[1] The data call questions are shown in red italics.

1. Noise: The CMRR SEIS has ambient noise data as of 2003. Is there more recent information for the site and TA-55?
There is no more recent ambient noise data for the site. Our noise data-collection focus is on OSHA- and NIOSH-related worker exposure rather than ambient.[2]

2. Human Health: Please provide information on any inadvertent releases of radionuclides in the last 3 years from LANL or PF-4.
There have been no inadvertent emissions or discharges of radionuclides during the past three years from PF-4. This is true also for the rest of LANL. Unplanned releases for 2009 and 2010 are described in annual Environmental Reports, which can be found on the open Web.[3] Data for the current year was found by interviews with subject matter experts.[4] There have been air emissions/releases associated with the environmental remediation of Material Disposal Areas, but these are not unplanned. Data for MDA-B are described below as an example.

[1] Participants in the call were Steven Booth and John Isaacson from LANL, John Eichner and Kirk Owens from SAIC.
[2] Paula Whitehead (Industrial Hygiene and Safety Division Office), pwh[redacted] personal communication, October 27, 2011.
[3] "Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Report 2010," LA-14445-ENV, September 2011. Unplanned releases are found in Chapter 2, Part D, page 2-31.The url for 2010 report is http://www.lanl.gov/environment/all/docs/reports/2010ER_1-4.pdf. The url for the 2009 report is http://www.lanl.gov/environment/all/docs/reports/2009ESR_1-4.pdf.
[4] David Fuehne (ENV-Environmental Stewardship), Jacob Meadows (ENV-Water Quality and RCRA), Terrill Lemke (ENV-Water Quality and RCRA).

- *location of release* MDA-B at Technical Area 21. The results from the site's monitoring station show releases in the most recent year (2011); see Figure 1.[5] However these emissions are not "inadvertent" because they are a routine part of the cleanup activity, and were considered in the documented safety analysis (DSA). Key mitigations that were included in the project to handle the potential releases are as follows.
    1. The work was performed in containment buildings with HEPA filtration.
    2. Exposed sediments were stabilized with coagulant to reduce dust.
    3. The containment buildings were monitored and adjusted when needed.
    4. Operational controls were in place to stop work if necessary and adjust methods to accommodate areas of higher radioactivity.
- *type of release (e.g., airborne, liquid)* The releases are airborne.
- *radionuclides* PU-239 release.
- *amount released* See Figure 1.
- *duration of release* The releases occurred during remediation activities.
- *cause and corrective action.* The releases were anticipated and the result of the remediation project; mitigating actions are listed above.

3. Accidents: Have there been any industrial/radiological accidents at PF-4 or at LANL in general in the last 12 months? If so, describe the incidents, including whether there were any injuries or fatalities.

Since accidents are defined as Occurrence Reporting Processing System (ORPS) Reportable events, SAIC may query the system to gather this information. Los Alamos has confirmed that the ORPS data base is up to date.[6]

[5] The website for this information is http://www.lanl.gov/environment/air/emissions/data/mda-b/MDAB_plot_317.pdf. To see releases at other MDAs, use http://www.lanl.gov/environment/cleanup/mda.shtml.

[6] John McNeel, Environmental Safety, Health, and Quality, [redacted] personal communication, October 27, 2011.

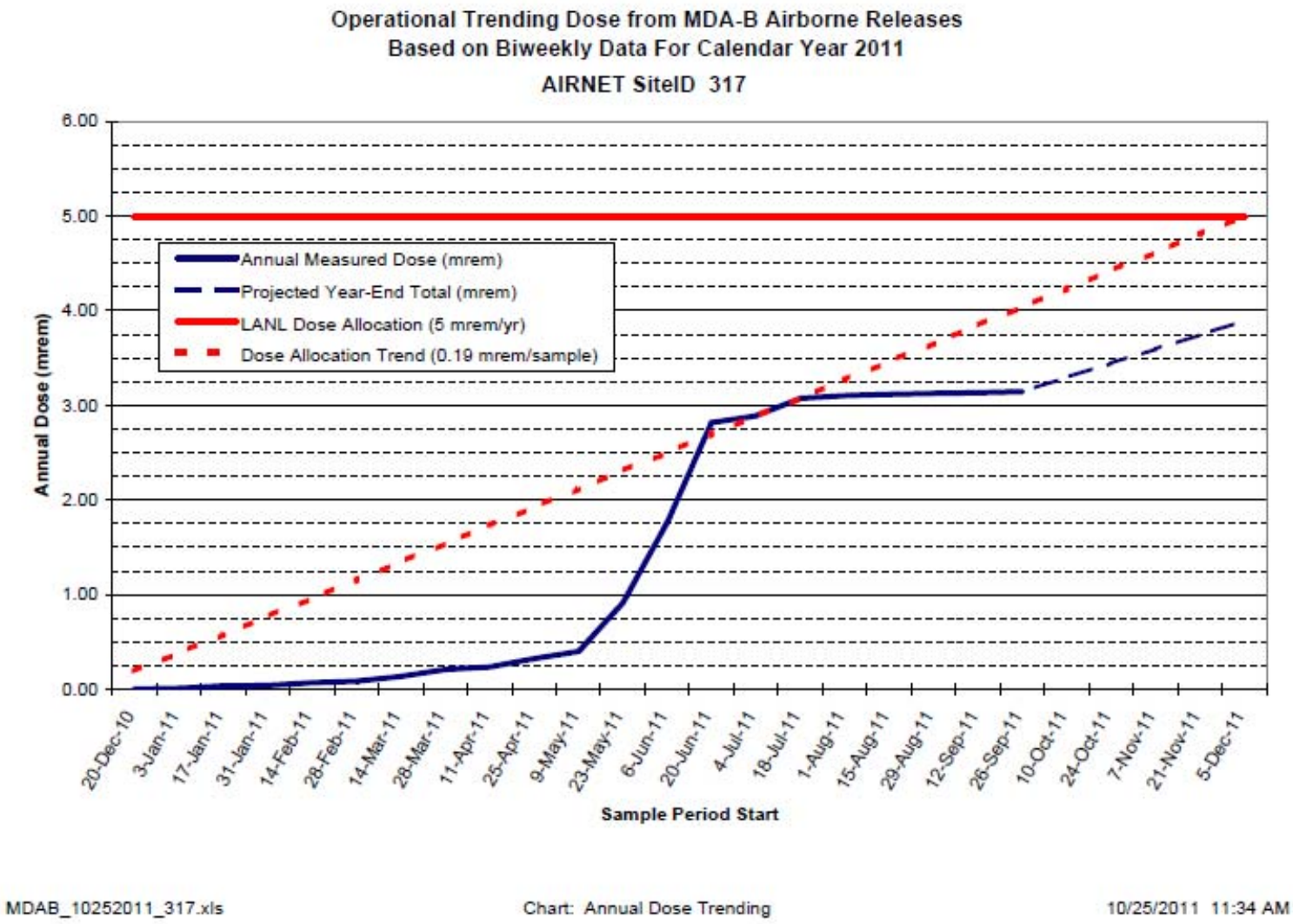

Figure 1: Biweekly data for air emission at station 317, located near MDA-B environmental remediation site for calendar year 2011.