



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
APR 17 2012

Mr. Jonathan Edwards, Director
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air
Radiation Protection Division
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460

Subject: Response to EPA Letter Dated December 22, 2011

Dear Mr. Edwards:

This letter is in reply to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) December 22, 2011 letter regarding the first set of review questions and comments related to the Planned Change Request (PCR) for replacing the current "Option D" Panel Closure System (PCS) with an alternative design. In Enclosure 1 to this letter, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) is providing responses to EPA's questions. In addition, the DOE/CBFO is providing the references on compact disc, used in the responses (Enclosure 2).

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Russ Patterson at (575) 234-7457.

Sincerely,



Jose R. Franco, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Enclosures (2)

cc: w/o enclosures
R. Lee, EPA *ED
K. Economy, EPA ED
S. Ghose, EPA ED
J. Walsh, EPA ED
T. Peake, EPA ED
N. Elkins, LANL-CO ED
P. Shoemaker, SNL-CPG ED
G. Basabilvazo, CBFO ED
R. Patterson, CBFO ED
F. Sharif, WTS ED
R. Chavez, RES ED
S. Kouba, RES ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution