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United States Government

Department of Energy

Rocky Flats Office

**memorandum**

DATE: DEC 24 1991

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: ERD:SRG:11378

SUBJECT: Operable Unit No. 1 Drain Activities Drain Resumption

TO: J.M. Kersh, Associate General Manager  
Environmental Restoration and Waste Management  
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.



On December 18, 1991 we gave verbal instructions and on December 20, 1991 we gave written (ERD:SG:11174) instructions to cease certain activities at the Operable Unit 1 (881 Hillside) Interim Measure/Interim Remedial Action (IM/IRA) French Drain excavation. The cessation pertained to excavation activities at the IM/IRA French Drain due to concerns by the DOE Occupational Safety Branch and the Environmental Restoration Division. The concerns centered around the safety of working around the slump blocks being encountered in the subsurface. These concerns were highlighted in the meetings held December 18, 19, and 20, 1991. Our concerns were adequately addressed in the December 20, 1991 meeting and your December 23, 1991 memorandum (91-RF-9451), which included a revised Excavation Plan Procedures (21000-SUI-OU01.1R2) and slope stability evaluation.

The revised Excavation Plan Procedures include: (1) use of slope stability indicators as an aid in identifying potential slope instability; (2) bedrock keyway portion of excavation not exceeding four feet (safety factor greater than five); (3) daily excavation inspections noting any special concerns and signoffs by cognizant EG&G/Subcontractor personnel on the Daily Excavation Task Report and Excavation Permit prior to entry into the excavation; (4) excavation to be monitored by competent engineer/geologist during all excavation activities to identify slump block features; and (5) all slump blocks encountered are to be excavated. The slope stability evaluation included a figure displaying safety factors for varying keyway depths which shows a safety factor greater than five for the maximum four feet allowed in the Excavation Plan Procedures.

Based upon your December 23, 1991 submittal containing the above procedures, we hereby approve resumption of all activities at the OU1 IM/IRA. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Grace, of my staff, at extension 7199.

*David P. Simonson*  
David P. Simonson  
Assistant Manager  
for Environmental Management

ADMIN RECORD

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