

Memorandum of Agreement Between the SNL WIPP Carlsbad Programs Group and the SNL PAAA Office

Purpose

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Sandia's Carlsbad Programs Group and Sandia's PAAA Office outlines the roles and responsibilities each group has relative to internal PAAA oversight of the WIPP-related work done by Sandia. For the purposes of this MOA, the Sandia Carlsbad Programs Group consists of Organizations 6820, 6821, 6822 and those matrixed to the WIPP Project in these organizations.

Background

The SNL WIPP Program serves as the scientific advisor to the US Department of Energy (DOE) on repository science for DOE's WIPP program. Activities include gathering and analyzing technical data and performing computer simulations to support continued certification of the WIPP facility. Sandia's WIPP project is not involved in operations of the WIPP facility in any way. Based on the scope of Sandia's role for support of DOE's WIPP program, the parties to this agreement acknowledge there is a very low risk of PAAA noncompliances. It is clear that Sandia must exercise oversight for PAAA purposes over all of its nuclear operations and associated technical activities. This MOA is designed to facilitate that oversight in a manner that is consistent with the nature of Sandia's WIPP work.

Goals

The two parties in this MOA will strive to:

- Ensure effective compliance with PAAA regulations through continuing application of sound quality assurance principals to Sandia's work along with appropriate oversight.
- Structure PAAA oversight in a graded manner, consistent with the nature of the work done by Sandia in support of DOE's WIPP program.

Implementation

Sandia's PAAA Office and the Carlsbad Programs Group should maintain an active communication related to PAAA implementing instructions and operating procedures that are be deemed necessary to the continued implementation of this MOA.

Sandia's Carlsbad Programs Group will:

1. Maintain effective implementation of the SNL WIPP QA program, such effectiveness to be judged by the Carlsbad Programs Group DOE Customer and WIPP's EPA Regulator.
2. Continue to use the Corrective Action Request (CAR) process spelled out by Sandia's WIPP QA program. Rely upon that process to continuously improve the QA program of which it is a part.
3. Inform the PAAA Office should substantial WIPP-related work scope changes take place.
4. Request guidance from the PAAA Office for PAAA determination of program

- changes to ensure compliance with PAAA reporting requirements.
5. Provide the Sandia PAAA office with all reports documenting results from audits/assessments of our Sandia WIPP program. By this means, the Carlsbad Programs Group will provide to Sandia's PAAA office objective evidence of continued adequacy, implementation, and effectiveness of the Sandia Carlsbad Program.

Sandia's PAAA Office will:

1. Evaluate the continued acceptability of the process outlined in this MOA for effective implementation of PAAA oversight of Sandia's WIPP work.
2. Provide the Carlsbad Programs Group with periodic updates related to implementation of the PAAA program at Sandia, as well as periodic updates when changes to requirements may potentially affect the Carlsbad Programs Group.
3. Notify the Manager of the Carlsbad Programs Group of PAAA disposition results related to the audit reports provided by the Carlsbad Programs Group.

Disputes

Any dispute arising out of this MOA shall be resolved by the managers of Sandia's Carlsbad Programs Group and Sandia's PAAA Office. Disputes irresolvable by this means will be referred to the Division 6000 office for resolution.

Amendment

This MOA may be amended after written concurrence of both parties.

Termination

This MOA will remain in effect until terminated by any party to the MOA provided such notice of termination is in writing, signed by the appropriate manager and sent to the other party.

Approval

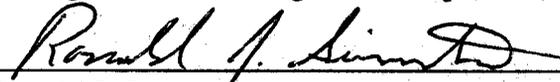
This MOA will take effect immediately upon the signing of this document by the appropriate managers below:



David S. Kessel
Manager, Carlsbad Programs Group (6820)

11/4/04

Date



Ronald J. Simonton
Manager, PAAA Office (6004)

11/11/04

Date